The Jerusalem Report magazine ...inside

The C Jewish News

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Israel rejects Bush's plans

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

Israel, having flatly rejected U.S. President George Bush's plea for flexibility on procedural matters holding up a peace conference, has sought to blame Arab intransigence for the impasse while reportedly setting a new condition of its own.

That was the situation when the cabinet convened for its regular weekly meeting Sunday to discuss the letter Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir sent to Bush June 6.

The policy-making inner cabinet was to meet yesterday for a deeper discussion, by which time the United States may have indicated what its next move will be.

So far, Washington's response has been low-key and without recrimination. "They have some other ideas. We have ideas. We continue to talk," White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said. He refused to divulge the contents of Shamir's letter to Bush.

It is widely known, however, that the prime minister refused Bush's proposals for a limited UN presence at a conference in the form of an "observer" or a conference that would reconvene periodically, with Israel's consent, for progress reports.

It is clear that Shamir did not budge from his position that the conference must be nothing more than a ceremonial opening for bilateral talks between Israel and its various Arab adversaries, after which it would dissolve.

According to reports here Sunday, Shamir threw in another condition. He argued that even so limited a conference should not be convened without prior agreement on who is to represent the Palestinians.

Shamir recalled Israel's position a year ago, when the United States proposed that Israel talk with a Palestinian delegation about elections in the territories.

Egypt offered to host those talks. But Israel refused to allow East Jerusalem Arabs or Palestinians living abroad to participate. It also refused to meet with anyone it considered associated with the Palestine Liberation Organization or a "nationalist" bent on Israel's destruction.

Netanyahu calls for Arab moves

Israel has never specified which Palestinians it would be willing to talk to. Observers here believe Shamir raised the issue to head off the embarrassing possibility that the U.S. administration would send out invitations to a conference, despite the absence of agreement on its nature or form.

Foreign Minister David Levy, who was reported last week to be urging the government to be more flexible, lined up solidly behind the prime minister Sunday.

He insisted to reporters that Shamir's letter did not "slam the door" on further contacts. He challenged the United States to extract "meaningful flexibility" from the Arab side.

That point was hammered home by Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who claimed Israel had made its most far-reaching concessions in 10 years.

According to Netanyahu, it was a concession even to agree to a conference, much less one with a Soviet role and a European role, which Israel had long rejected.

"But what are the Arabs doing? What's stopping them from coming to the negotiating table?" he asked.

Netanyahu pointedly agreed with an army radio interviewer who complained that "the United States, seeing our concessions," wants to "pressure us more and more."

But there was no sign of pressure in Washington. Asked if Shamir's response was a setback, Fitzwater replied, "No, I wouldn't characterize it that way because, you know, we have a situation where positions change and they're fluid.

"Almost every day, you have different ideas, and some are encouraging and some are not so encouraging. But one thing we've learned in dealing with the Mideast peace process is not to respond on a daily basis or to take any statement as being the final word.

"Everything is at least subject to discussion," he said.

CALLING ALL PET LOVERS

A worker of the Tel Aviv branch of the Israel Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals sits with some of the animals being given away. The society is trying to find homes for many of the cats and dogs that are in its premises in north Tel Aviv. [IPPA photo]

Holocaust monument dedicated to martyrs

By LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —

Remember us — that's what the six million victims of the Nazis demand of us, the speakers said.

And in North York, at least, that wish will be fulfilled.

On a hot, sunny Sunday afternoon in early June, a monument to the Jewish martyrs unveiled in North York's Earl Bales Park.

The monument, created by sculptor Ernest Raab, himself a survivor, is also to the Jewish partisans and ghetto fighters, the Allied armed forces, and the righteous among the nations.

A rose garden at the base is dedicated to the Canadian Armed Forces.

Politicians were there, and government officials, and officers of the police and armed forces, and Jewish communal workers, and the consul general of Israel, Benjamin Abileah.

But most of the approximately 3,000 people there were, appropriately, the ordinary people, survivors, survivors' children, and those fortunate enough not to have been in Europe during the Nazi years, but recognizing that they too are survivors.

Gerda Steinitz Frieberg, chairman of the program, said that 46 years ago, when the guns of war fell silent, "Jews were not part of the euphoria.

"The streets once filled with Jewish life were empty and silent. We were unwelcome guests in the countries we once called home."

The victims last plea, to be remembered, became a commandment, she said.

"We have the same determination to remember as we did to survive."

[Cont'd. on page 28]

Laying a wreath at the dedication of the monument to the Holocaust's victims and its fighters are (from left) Holocaust survivors Alexander Raab, Gerda Steinitz Frieberg and Nate Leipciger. [Ron Csillag photo]

Israel to extradite West Bank couple

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

An Israeli judge has ruled in favor of extraditing a West Bank couple to the United States to face murder charges.

Jerusalem District Court Judge Zvi Cohen ruled that Robert Manning, 39, and his wife, Rochelle, 51, former residents of Los Angeles, should be extradited to face charges in the death of a California secretary, who was killed in 1980 by an explosive device mailed to her firm.

The judge based his ruling on new evidence submitted by U.S. authorities, whose extradition request was filed last year.

The Mannings, who are residents of the settlement of Kiryat Arba and followers of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, have 30 days to appeal the decision to the High Court of Justice.

[Cont'd. on page 14]

Canada

Chisvin urges community to look beyond cheque book

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

It was out with the old and in with the new as the leadership of Toronto Jewish Congress (TJC), now known as the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, changed hands at its annual meeting last week.

Outgoing president Charles Diamond looked back at the highlights of his two-year term while the federation's new president, Jack Chisvin, called on the community to move beyond simply being a "cheque book" society.

Diamond said his term in office saw amazing developments in the Jewish world, as the captive Soviet and Ethiopian communities, as well as the Albanian one, exited their host countries for Israel.

Diamond said it was impossible for him to travel anywhere without hearing ringing endorsements of the Toronto community's generosity in the Operation Exodus campaign to help settle Soviet immigrants in Israel.

Despite the onset of a recession, Toronto raised $55 million in pledges, the highest per capita amount in the world and second only to New York City in absolute totals.

Toronto always responds when Israel is in crisis, he said, pointing to a rally that attracted 4,000 people during the Gulf War. Much of the manpower and planning that went into organizing that event had its origin in TJC, he noted.

TJC also ensured Canadian politicians were aware of the strong support for Israel by turning out in large numbers at the Canada-Israel Committee's annual meeting. Two planeloads of delegates travelled to Ottawa for the event, he said.

New federation president Jack Chisvin (right) presents outgoing TJC president Charles Diamond with a sculpture titled Exodus.

At the local level, the federation obtained 10 acres of land in Vaughan for future Jewish day schools, he said, and is hoping to proceed with a community-assisted residential housing program (the Avenel Project) in the Wilson/Avenue Road area to provide homes for the elderly, disabled, single parents and immigrants.

TJC recently commissioned an intensive survey of the community, Diamond reported, to help prepare plans for the community's direction in the future.

The survey showed Toronto is quite different than American communities, with 41 per cent of the population born abroad, high levels of day school attendance and frequent visits to Israel.

An issue of great concern to the community will be public funding for day schools, Diamond said. Fees for elementary schools approximate $6,000 per student per year, while at the high school level they can range between $8,000 and $10,000. For many, those are impossible figures to meet, despite community assistance.

You can't expect the private philanthropic system to keep pace with the needs of the Jewish education system, he warned.

Diamond called for putting maximum pressure on the provincial government so Ontario does not remain the only Canadian province which does not provide some degree of public assistance to independent schools.

Diamond concluded by calling on the community leaders to increase the bonds between the diaspora and Israel, developing more missions, student visits and other links to the Jewish state.

Chisvin told the annual meeting that despite the community's values, ethics, shared observances and humanity, he saw Toronto as a segmented and fragmented community, encompassing many institutions and constituencies.

That helps make communication difficult, he said, and he called on the community to "look through the transparent fences that enclose our vested interests" as a step to resolving conflicts and differences.

Chisvin suggested that while Toronto deserves praise for its generosity in Operation Exodus, "a society valued mainly for its cheque book and materialism is unlikely to develop any cultural phenomena beyond a problem of identity, and a general state of wondering why it exists."

He asked why "we don't apply the same energy we put into fund raising into the pursuit of scholarship, the rapture of learning, and the creativity of our culture."

David Engel (right) and Elaine Lightstone received Leadership Development Awards from TJC president Charles Diamond.

The federation's executive-director Steve Ain paid tribute to Benjamin Abileah, who this summer is concluding a four-year stint as Israel's consul-general to Toronto.

Ain lauded Abileah's involvement in helping plan the celebrations marking Israel's 40th anniversary as well as the consul-general's accessibility when called upon to participate in community events. Ain described Abileah, and his wife, Ruth, as "wonderful, warm and giving" people.

In response, the consul-general looked back on his time in Toronto, that has often been marked by Israel facing various challenges, including the intifada.

Despite the tough times in the past, the future may hold the prospects of an emerging peace process, he said.

The annual meeting also saw the presentation of the Shem Tov Awards in recognition of the dedication of community volunteers. The awards, presented by Sheila Engel, a federation vice-president, went to Phil Alter, Murray Ehrlick, Jack Martell, Bert Raphael and Anita Ekstein.

Leadership Development Awards were presented to Elaine Lightstone and David Engel.

The Ben Sadowski Award, given to those demonstrating leadership in community development and organization, was presented to Dr. Gerald Halbert by Dr. Arnold (Bucky) Epstein.

Epstein said Halbert's leadership qualities have been evident for 30 years. He has led campaigns for a variety of Israel-based institutions, but it is his "lifelong leadership to the United Jewish Appeal which set this year's recipient apart."

Halbert served as UJA campaign cabinet chairman during the 1973 Yom Kippur War and in 1979 chaired the campaign that launched Project Renewal.

During the 1982 Lebanon war he served as co-chairman of the special Peace for Galilee Campaign and then, for an unprecedented third time, he co-chaired last year's Operation Exodus campaign.

In other business, a slate of federation officers was elected by acclamation. The officers are: President: Jack Chisvin; Vice-Presidents: Sheila Engel, Bernie Ghert, Henry Koschitzky, Julia Koschitzky, Harry Krakowsky, Martin Sable, George Wasserstein; Treasurer: Marshall Kesten; Assistant Treasurer: Phil Alter; Secretary: Judy Gwartz; Assistant Secretary: Shoel Silver; Honorary Legal Counsel: Gerry Ross; and Honorary Officer: J.B. Salsberg.

Other officers, by virtue of communal positions they hold, are: Herb Rosenfeld, past president; Charles Diamond, immediate past president; Sandy Brown, chairman of the Board of Jewish Education; Paul Morton, co-chairman of the UJA; Judy Noyek, president of the Jewish Women's Federation; Judy Scheininger, co-chairman, UJA; Eric Slavens, chairman of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region; and Charles Zaionz, national vice-president, CJC Ontario Region.

The Ben Sadowksi Award of Merit was presented to Dr. Gerald Halbert (left) by Dr. Arnold Epstein.

TJC approves name change in effort to end identity crisis

TORONTO —

Here's a snap quiz to test your knowledge of communal institutions.

Toronto Jewish Congress is:

a. the local arm of Canadian Jewish Congress.

b. unconnected with the United Jewish Appeal.

c. unaffiliated with local synagogues, landsmanshaften and social service agencies.

If you answered either a, b, or c, consider yourself among the many Torontonians who labor under various misconceptions about Toronto Jewish Congress (TJC).

In fact, "none of the above" would have been the only correct answer to the quiz.

Despite the similarity in their names, Toronto Jewish Congress is a distinct entity quite apart from Canadian Jewish Congress.

But in the minds of many, the two organizations are mistakenly believed to be two sides of the same coin.

That identity crisis is one of the main reasons why TJC voted at its annual meeting last week to change its name to the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

The new moniker more accurately describes the organization's identity, said Steve Ain, its executive director.

And by including "Greater Toronto" in the name, as opposed to simply "Toronto," it recognized the substantial population shift of the city's Jewish community. Perhaps one quarter of the area's estimated 145,000 Jews now reside in the satellite communities of Vaughan, Markham, Richmond Hill and Mississauga, Ain said.

TJC's identity crisis can be traced back to 1975, when the United Jewish Welfare Fund merged with Canadian Jewish Congress' Central region to form TJC. The idea was to create one central organization to act as the community's federation while taking on a few supplemental activites. Meanwhile, CJC Ontario would maintain its traditional activities in community relations, advocacy for Soviet Jewry and international affairs, Ain said.

At the time, it was expected that TJC and CJC Ontario would, in practice, be two different departments in the same organization, but that has not been the case.

Each organization maintains separate leadership and its own professional staff.

A 1985 TJC strategic plan recommended that it communicate more effectively with the community as well as change its name to clarify that it is distinct from CJC.

Many people don't realize they are distinct, or that the UJA is the fund raising arm of TJC, Ain said.

"We are the Jewish federation of Toronto," Ain said. "That name identifies us as the central local organization responsible for fund raising, the financial support of local social, cultural and educational programs (especially Jewish schools) and a contributor to national and international Jewish organizations."

The name change, though essentially a cosmetic one, should make it easier for the federation to ensure it has a distinct identity while getting across its message to the Jewish public of Greater Toronto, he added.

— P.L.

Reform omission angers Rabbi Marmur

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —

Rabbi Dow Marmur, senior rabbi of Holy Blossom Temple, considers it an "obviously intentional" omission that no Reform rabbis were asked to participate in the recent dedication of the Holocaust memorial in Earl Bales Park.

Rabbis Moshe Stern and Henry Hoschander, both Orthodox, recited psalms, and Rabbi Philip Scheim, a Conservative rabbi, said Kaddish.

In a letter to Gerda Frieberg, chairman of the dedication committee, he called it a "bitter irony" that at such an event one group of Jews were the victims of discrimination and prejudice.

He also resigned as a trustee of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem.

Frieberg said that the particular rabbis were invited to participate by Alex Eisen, a major fund raiser for the project, and scultor Ernest Raab, and not by the committee.

She said that she invited all the city's rabbis, intending to have them all say Kaddish together.

"When only three or four responded, I decided to leave it alone."

Frieberg said she refuses to get involved in internecine conflicts like this, calling it "mishugas."

Both Rabbi Marmur and Frieberg noted that Hitler had not made any distinctions between Jews, and we here should not do so either.

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Jerusalem Report begins drive into Canada

Newsmagazine's tough reporting ruffles feathers

By LEORA FRUCHT

JERUSALEM —

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir doesn't like the Jerusalem Report. But he reads it anyway.

He is one of an elite group of subscribers who gets the English-language weekly delivered by hand as soon as it comes off the press every Wednesday night. But so far, he has refused to grant an interview to the newsmagazine, which has ruffled more than a few feathers, including his own, since it was launched in October.

The magazine's exposes have included the "Treegate" scandal, which uncovered how a million dollars in Jewish National Fund donations, earmarked for the restoration of the Carmel Forest, never reached Israel; an environmental cover story that revealed how Israelis were being poisoned because of a shocking lack of pesticide control; and a recent report on the exorbitant rates that the Customs Authority demands for shipments of used clothing sent as donations to new immigrants.

"I suspect there are people in several organizations and government ministries who open our magazine every week with trembling hands," says its editor-in-chief Hirsh Goodman with a satisfied grin.

"Shamir has to read the magazine if he wants to know what the American ambassador is reading," adds Goodman, noting that virtually all the embassies in Israel get the Jerusalem Report.

Hirsh Goodman, editor-in-chief of the Jerusalem Report. [Rafi Magnes photo]

"But," he smiles, "Shamir's office made it quite clear why they would not grant us an interview: They don't like us."

This is hardly surprising given the blistering attack on the prime minister's policies that appeared in a recent commentary written by the magazine's managing editor Ze'ev Chafets, a former head of the Government Press Office under Menachem Begin.

Goodman is quick to point out that the magazine makes a clear distinction between fact and opinion, with the latter reserved for the commentary section of the magazine.

"We make it a policy not to have reporters injecting their opinions into their articles."

As for the opinion pieces, they reflect the full symphony, or sometimes, cacophony, of political voices heard in Israel. The magazine's editorial board is adamant about not toeing any one political line.

The Jerusalem Report's Middle East section includes some of Israel's most respected analysts, including Ehud Ya'ari of Israel Television and Ze'ev Schiff of the daily Ha'Aretz.

It is probably the only Jewish publication with a fulltime correspondent in Beirut, who provides on-the-spot coverage from Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

That reporter is the only one of the magazine's 30 correspondents worldwide who writes under a pseudonym since his life probably depends on it.

Goodman, who was born in South Africa, and worked for many years as the military correspondent for the Jerusalem Post, says that one of the aims of the magazine is to be "a bridge for the world Jewish community."

Under the stewardship of former Prisoner of Zion Natan Sharansky, the Jewish World section covers events in communities as far apart as Damascus and Durban, Milwaukee and Mexico. Likewise, the Arts section spans the range from Yiddish theatre in London to ice hockey in Israel.

"There is something uniquely Jewish about a magazine that can get a flurry of letters in response to a cover story on Sholem Aleichem," notes the Jerusalem Report's Ombudsman, veteran BBC correspondent Michael Elkins.

The leadership of the magazine is as widely distributed as its correspondents: There are subscribers in some 30 countries including Zimbabwe, Zaire, Spain and Sweden. There's even one reader in Japan — an Israeli prisoner who leafs through it in his cell.

"All of these readers abroad heard about the magazine through word of mouth," says Goodman. "The bulk of our 18,000 to 20,000 readers are in Israel. We are only now beginning a concerted marketing campaign abroad. We wanted to wait until we felt the magazine was tip-top."

The Jerusalem Report's auspicious premiere in October coincided with the Gulf Crisis — something that did wonders for its journalistic credibility, but killed advertising, which the magazine is still fighting hard to win back.

But Goodman is confident, pointing out that the Jerusalem Report's five owners — who include Canadian businessman Charles Bronfman and Jonathan Kolber — are very actively involved in the business side of the magazine. "They are determined," he says, "to make this a business, not a charity."

So chances are that a year from now Shamir and a few other powerful people will still be reading the Jerusalem Report — albeit grudgingly.

An issue of *The Jerusalem Report* magazine can be found in this week's edition of The Canadian Jewish News, as part of the publication's North American subscription drive, launched this month.

UIA group to attend Assembly

TORONTO —

A major Canadian delegation headed by Julia Koschitzky, president of the United Israel Appeal of Canada, and Phil Granovsky, UIA chairman of the board, will participate in the Annual Assembly of the Jewish Agency for Israel in Jerusalem, June 23 - 28.

During the delegation's stay in Israel, dedication ceremonies for three major UIA projects will take place: the Or Yehuda Canada Cultural Centre, in memory of Lynda Pearl-Cartu; the Allan Offman Sports Centre at the Leo Baeck School in Haifa, and the Canada Centre in Metulla.

A fourth project to be dedicated is the School for Excellence in Jerusalem, which the UIA of Canada has had a major share in establishing.

This year's Assembly has special significance in view of the enormous challenges faced by Israel in absorbing massive numbers of immigrants from the Soviet Union, who have arrived with Operation Exodus, as well as 14,000 Ethiopian Jews who came on the airlift rescue, Operation Solomon.

A new component in this Assembly will be discussions on the Education Authority, established recently to streamline and unify worldwide Jewish Agency functions in this field. Henry and Julia Koschitzky are UIA's delegates on the education commission. Henry is designated to chair the Authority's Canadian advisory committee.

The Agency's world income committee is chaired by Granovsky.

Granovsky is also chairman of the board of trustees of Keren Hayesod (World UIA), which will meet in Jerusalem to discuss campaign operations worldwide.

Keren Hayesod's Annual Conference will precede the Assembly, with substantial Canadian participation. Delegates will begin by visiting Budapest and arrive in Israel on a flight with Russian olim. The main part of the Keren Hayesod conference will be held in Jerusalem.

The Canadian group of these events in June, including the Assembly, the Keren Hayesod Conference, and the UIA project dedications, consists of the following (attending all or part of the events):

Faye and Joe Ain, Rosanne and Steve Ain, Neri Bloomfield, Judy and Donald Carr, Lazar Cartu and son Josh, John Fishel, Yona Gazit, Sara and Harry Gorman, Shirley and Phil Granovsky, Mark Gryfe, Walter Hess, Barney Harris, Julia and Henry Koschitzky, Joan and Lester Lazarus, Allan Offman, Craig Offman, Gert Pearl and her sons Howard and Michael, Judith and Jack Rose, Reuven Rosenfelder, Eli Rubenstein, Marilyn and Mendy Sharf, Gerry Sheff, Jonathan Sheff, Skip and Lynne Sigel, Anthony Sigel, Penny and Lou Sklar, Drew Staffenberg, Doris Weiser, Rosalind and Harvey Wolfe.

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Canada

Quebec split viewed as non-event by Sephardim

By
JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL — Although the majority of francophone Sephardim are federalists, they do not view Quebec separation as "the end of the world" and want to allay the fears of anglophone Jews, said the president of Quebec's Sephardi community.

"For me, [the separation of Quebec] would be a non-event, in the same way as when Norway, separated from Sweden," Communaute Sepharade du Quebec president Salomon Oziel told the Conference of Jewish Communal Conference, an annual event that brought together 500 community professionals from throughout North America.

Oziel said the Sephardim, who number 22,000 or about a quarter of the Montreal Jewish community, would like to act as a "bridge" between anglophone Ashkenazim and the Quebec government and francophone majority because of their comfort with "the French fact."

The panel discussion, intended to be an examination of the integration of francophone Moroccan Jews into an anglophone Jewish community from the perspective of 25 years later, provoked heated exchange between the Sephardi panelists and Ashkenazi Montrealers in the audience.

Panelist Leon Ouaknine, executive director of Jewish Family Services, charged that the Sephardim have been victims of prejudice and systematic discrimination at the hands of the Ashkenazim who run the community, and that is changing only because Ashkenazim see the political advantage of portraying the Jewish community as not exclusively anglophone when dealing with Quebec and using Sephardi contacts in francophone spheres.

Nevertheless, tensions are mounting between Ashkenazim and Sephardim, mirroring the language debate in Quebec, he said.

He also noted a "schizophrenia" among anglophone Jews towards Quebecois nationalism. The offical community policy of supporting the flourishing of French is at odds with the fact that Jews "are massively opposed" to this position, pointing out that Jews have led Alliance Quebec, the Equality Party and other English-rights efforts that he sees as reactions against francization.

Ashkenazi immigrants to Quebec were forceably anglicized, because of French-Canadians' historic rejection of all immigrants and now "share most of the attitudes and prejudices" of English-Canadians, which includes condescension to and mistrust of francophones.

When the Sephardim began arriving, the community, particularly JIAS, "tried very forcefully to digest them, to make them pseudo-Ashkenazim, English-speaking Jews," Ouaknine charged. Today, "prejudice is so fundamentally ingrained, [Ashkenazim] are not conscious of the enormity of what they are saying."

Agencies continue to resist hiring Sephardi professionals and Sephardim are under-represented on boards, he said. Ouaknine said he was one of the first Sephardi professionals hired in 1969, as director of Neighborhood House, because, although Moroccan-born, he had lived most of his life in France and was therefore seen as an acceptable "hybid."

Psychologist Jean-Claude Lasry said a survey of North African Jews he did five years ago indicated a dislike of Ashkenazim, in social or work relationships. The largest percentage of the 270 North African Jews polled said they prefer French-Canadians as colleagues or bosses, and Ashkenazim were right at the bottom of a list of people they like. "Canadian Jews," defined in the study as those born here, scored somewhat better but still below French-Canadians.

Lasry said Ashkenazim were distinguished as European-born Jews, "usually with thick accents," whom North Africans often encountered as landlords.

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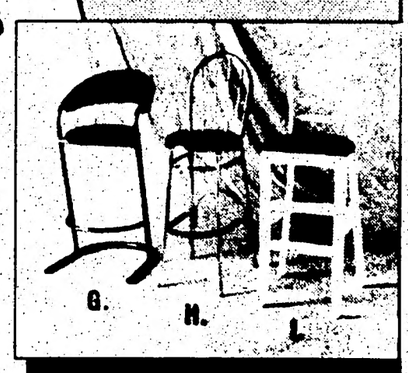

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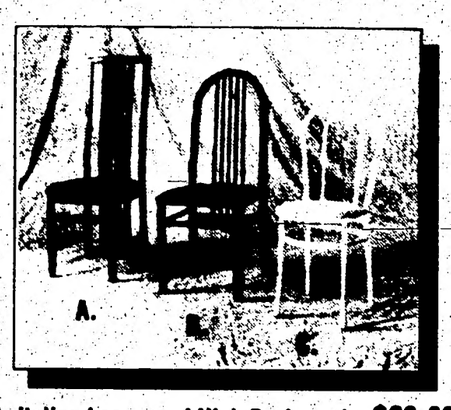

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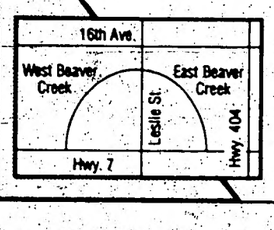

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Jews for Jesus investigated for using SkyDome mascot

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — Jews for Jesus may be in for a dome full of trouble.

The organization's use of Domer, the Toronto SkyDome's mascot, in a pamphlet distributed recently in Metro, is being investigated by dome officials for possible copyright infringement.

Domer, a smiling turtle who sports baseball gear, is shown in the pamphlet, which invites people to the "Skythrone," and talks about "Y'shua, the Jewish Messiah."

"We're investigating," SkyDome lawyer Lawrence Dale told The CJN. "It's serious and we're looking at it."

The Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress says it has received a number of complaints about the broadside.

Jews for Jesus often "uses or appropriates" symbols that are easily identifiable in their brochures, said CJC's Bernie Farber.

"What's particularly disturbing to us now is that they're using images connected with children. Children know these symbols," Farber said.

Among Jews for Jesus' "clever" attention-getting tactics is past use in their literature of the Toronto Blue Jays logo and of television cartoon character Bart Simpson.

Both matters are still under investigation by,

respectively, the Blue Jays organization and 20th Century Fox, for alleged trademark infringement.

Last autumn, Fox's lawyers threatened Jews for Jesus with a $100,000 lawsuit and ordered the group to halt further distribution of the pamphlet featuring Bart Simpson, and to hand over all the artwork.

Fox's missive was sent to the artist, 9-year-old Benjamin Wertheim, son of Jews for Jesus staff member Steve Wertheim.

According to *The Messianic Times*, a Toronto-based newspaper for messianic Jews, the younger Wertheim responded that he gets $2 a week in allowance and that it would take him a long time to pay $100,000.

"If you really want to sue me, go ahead!" he added.

The *Times* adds that Jews for Jesus has received about a dozen cease and desist orders over the past decade, with none resulting in a lawsuit.

In the past, the organization has also used in its broadsides depictions of "Shpiel of Fortune" (a take-off of the televison game show) and symbols from Star Trek and the film cartoon character Roger Rabbit.

When contacted about the Domer matter, Jews for Jesus Toronto spokesman Baruch Goldstein said, "no comment."

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House speaker honored for work for Soviet Jews

By MAURICE LUCOW

VANCOUVER —

A grateful Jewish community demonstrated its deep appreciation for the "extraordinary efforts and commitment to the cause of Soviet Jewry" by the Speaker of the House of Commons, John Fraser, at a tribute brunch at the Vancouver Jewish Community Centre.

The event was hosted by the Pacific Region of the Canadian Jewish Congress and held in conjunction with the CJC's small communities national leadership development symposium.

A large audience was on hand to honor Fraser, a Vancouver MP, and gave him a long standing ovation when he was presented with a plaque by Renee Bellas, vice-chair of the region and a leader in the Soviet Jewry movement here.

The "humanitarian award," as it was described by Bellas, was designed by Yuli Pons, a former Soviet Jew who now lives in Vancouver and the message was in four languages: English, French, Hebrew and Russian.

Bellas said Fraser has been involved in the Soviet Jewry movement for 18 of the 21 years since it started in Canada. He was especially involved in the cases of Col. Lev Ovsicher and Natan Sharansky.

Fraser always there

"When the book is written of Canada's participation in the Soviet Jewry movement the name of John Fraser will be linked closely with Ovsicher and Sharansky," she said.

Fraser, she added, "was always there when we needed him — to help in the struggle to save Soviet Jewry, to give support to Israel and to work for the good of the Jewish community of Canada in general."

Messages of congratulations to Fraser were read from the national CJC committee on Soviet Jewry, from British Columbia Attorney-General Russell Fraser, NDP leader (in B.C.) Mike Harcourt and Israel Ambassador Itzhak Shelef.

Fraser admitted that he was "overcome with emotion" in receiving the award. "When one looks back at what he has done, you don't usually look far ahead . . . It never occurred to me there would be moments of tribute."

The speaker said he was introduced to the Soviet Jewry movement by a lady "who asked if I could help. She was ill and desperate and asked me to try and bring her son out of the Soviet Union."

He said "yes," and this started him off on his years of working with the CJC's Soviet Jewry committee and with his fellow MPs to try and convince the Soviet government to let the Jews go.

Urgency remains

Now that Soviet Jews are able to migrate by the thousands to Israel and elsewhere, it is essential that Canadians not forget that there is an urgency about the problem of human rights all over the world and he said the key to meeting these urgent demands is "constant, persistent, determined and intelligent publicity" and a continuing effort to "help our fellow human beings . . . the members of the human race."

Les Scheininger, national CJC president; Renee Bellas, vice-chairman, CJC Pacific Region; and John Fraser, speaker of the House of Commons.

BC increasing grants to Jewish day schools

VICTORIA —

While the Ontario Jewish school system struggles to get funding from the Ontario government, the British Columbia government is increasing its grants to the three Jewish day schools in Vancouver.

The B.C. budget, which was passed recently by the Legislature, allows for a per student increase to $2,743 for the 1991-92 school year, compared with $2,663.50 in the current year. This represents a little more than a three per cent increase for the Jewish schools.

According to Gerry Ensing, director of the education ministry's independent schools branch, the Vancouver Hebrew Academy, Talmud Torah and Maimonides Hebrew High School with a total of about 550 students, will get the extra funding.

Funding from the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver totals about $430,000 (CJN March 7).

Government grants totalling $91.9 million have been budgeted to support independent schools in the province. A Finance Ministry report shows that in 1987-88 the independents received $40.7 million, so the increase to the present level is nearly 126 per cent. Grants were increased on the recommendation of a Royal Commission on Education, says the report.

In all, the province will spend $3.3 billion on elementary and secondary public school education, which is $1.5 billion or 83.3 per cent more than in 1987-88.

But while the independents are getting support from the government, the report shows that the allocation for public schools is $5,550 per student; the grants to the Jewish schools are only about half of that.

The report shows also that some 35,000 students attend private schools, about seven per cent of the total school age population.

Ensing said that contrary to some complaints that private schools are for the "elite," "the perception is wrong. In the mid-1960s the percentage of school-age children in private schools was 6.5 per cent. That went down until the early '70s and then started to go up. But since that point, it's only increased to seven per cent, not by leaps and bounds," Ensing said.

In the current issue of Intercom, the house organ of Canadian Jewish Congress published in Montreal, national president Les Scheininger is critical of Ontario's refusal to fund Jewish schools in that province.

"CJC finds this not only morally offensive," he says, "but something which undermines the very foundation upon which Canadian society is built . . . While we regard the extension of funding to Roman Catholic high schools (in Ontario) as fair and necessary, we feel other religious-based schools should be accorded the same treatment, without discrimination on the basis of religious affiliation." — M.L.

Jews urged to join unity struggle

VANCOUVER —

A stirring call for Jews of Canada to join the struggle for unity in Canada was sounded by Canadian Jewish Congress national president Les Scheininger at a small communities conference here.

Jews have "taken for granted" our relationships, in a formal sense, to the structures of Canada as a whole, Scheininger said. "We can't afford to turn our backs on the national unity issue, because we will wake up one day with our backs to the wall — and then it will be too late."

He said that as a Jewish community in a changing Canada "we have a stake and vital interest in ensuring that, at the end of the day, we can rest with the knowledge that there will be a strong, united and vibrant Canada there for us . . . We must argue vigorously, with passion and determination, for one united Canada."

The CJC president declared that Canada must not be destroyed as a result of an inability to determine an appropriate federal-provincial formula. "Nor can we permit Canada to be destroyed as a result of apathy."

He told his audience, representatives of small Jewish communities from all across Canada, that the challenge now to Canadians goes beyond constitutional arrangements, laws, division of authority and debates dealing with jurisdiction. The challenge goes beyond competing interests, as important as these are.

"The challenge is our continuity. To undo would be simple. To keep together is the challenge."

Scheininger said the purpose, goal and end result of the process now in progress in the country must be a united, strong, vibrant Canada.

Such a Canada, he continued, can only be achieved by a social contract, renegotiated to cover compromises by all — English Canada, Quebec, the aboriginal peoples and the ethnocultural communities, "for in this instance the universal common good of a united Canada is paramount."

As a Jewish community "we must and do recognize that there should be a special concern for the place of Quebec within Confederation but we cannot support an extreme reduction in, nor certainly the elimination of constitutional ties between the rest of Canada and Quebec.

"It is clear that the maintenance of federal ties, in accordance with acceptable and viable constitutional arrangements, will serve the best interests of all of Canada and all Canadians, including our community.

"National unity and stability are interdependent and in many ways we rely upon these, together with the principles in which we believe as a people, for our continued survival as a community in this country." — M.L.

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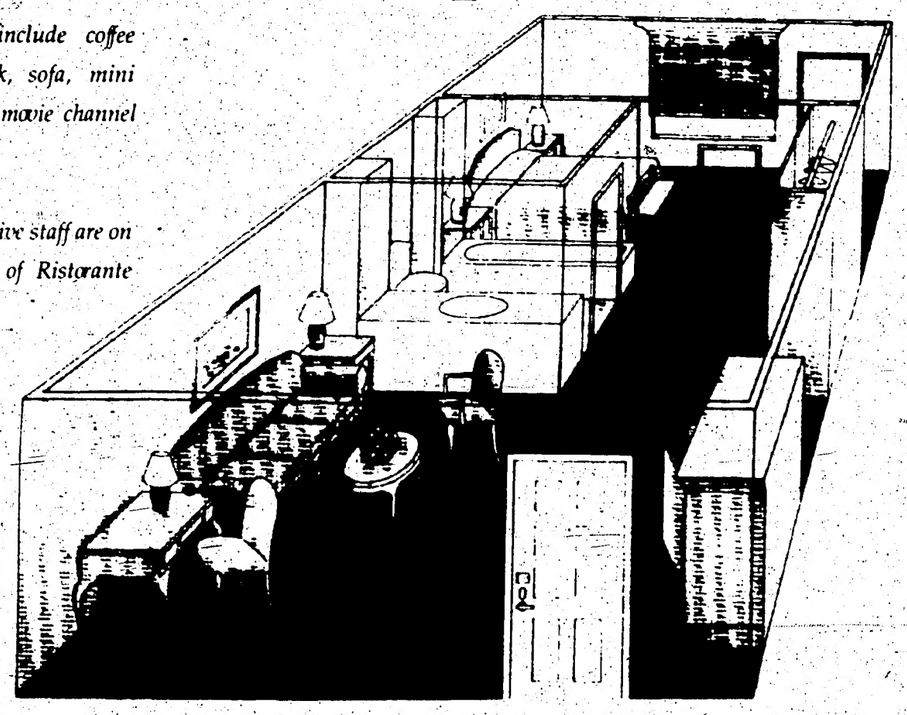

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Canada

Kreisel contributed to literary world

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —
Henry Kreisel, whose 1948 novel *The Rich Man* broke new ground in Canada, died in Edmonton recently at the age of 68.

Henry Kreisel

Kreisel was one of those young Europeans who were interned in England, and later in Canada, during the Second World War and who made signal contributions to the business and literary world here.

Born in Vienna in 1922, Kreisel left Austria in 1938 for England. At the start of the war, he was interned for 18 months, first in England and later in New Brunswick and Quebec.

His release from internment in Canada came about as the result of a sponsorship project initiated by the Canadian Jewish Congress, his direct sponsors in Toronto being Nathan Saginur, and his wife, the late Sima Saginur. "He lived with us for a few years," said their daughter Ruthie (Saginur) Zaionz.

Both *The Rich man* and *The Betrayal* (1964) were powerful novels exploring the lives of wartime European immigrants.

In 1981, Kreisel published a collection of short stories, *The Almost Meeting*, and four years later a diary of his internment appeared in *Another Country: Writings By and About Henry Kreisel.*

At the end of the war he remained in Canada, taking both his bachelor's and master's degree at the University of Toronto. He earned a PhD from the University of London in 1954.

In 1987 he retired from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, where he was academic vice-president and head of the English department.

Kreisel became an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1988 and last year received an Immigrant Achievement Award for outstanding contributions to Canadian society.

He is also survived by his wife, the former Esther Lazerson, whom he married in 1947, and a son, Philip, of Edmonton.

Diamond receives B.C. honor

By
MAURICE LUCOW

VICTORIA —
Vancouver Jewish community leader Jack Diamond, who was the Negev Dinner honoree in April, has been awarded the Order of British Columbia "for outstanding service to the province."

Premier Rita Johnston, in making the announcement, said the Order of British Columbia "is the highest form of recognition extended by the government."

Diamond was one of 17 recipients of the award, chosen from about 300 British Columbians who were nominated. He will be officially invested in the Order by Lt.-Gov. David Lam at a special ceremony at Government House on June 13.

Recipients of the Order will be presented with a medallion which incorporates the dogwood, the province's floral emblem, and the B.C. shield of arms. They will also receive certificates of appointment signed by the lieutenant-governor and can use the letters O.B.C. after their names.

Diamond was born in 1909 in Galicia and joined his brothers in Vancouver in 1926 where together they built a chain of butcher shops and later a sizeable wholesale operation.

By 1939 Diamond took over Pacific Meat, which he built into Western Canada's largest independent packing business. He has served as a director of such major corporations as Canadian Breweries, Zellers, International Paints and Lafarge Cement.

Jack Diamond

From his early years in Vancouver, Diamond took on increasing leadership in the Jewish community and has been chairman of the Schara Tzedeck cemetery board since 1940.

His fund-raising activities have been legendary, campaigning to build a new Schara Tzedeck synagogue, the United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bonds, Talmud Torah, Louis Brier Home for the Aged, the Lubavitch centre and many other organizations.

In the general community, he chaired the first cancer drive and the first two Heart Foundation drives, assisted the Children's Hospital, helped found the Variety Club of Western Canada and was chancellor of Simon Fraser University from 1975-1976.

Diamond is a co-owner of Canada's second largest race track (Vancouver's Exhibition Park) and his contribution to racing won him recognition in the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame. Diamond still arrives at the track most mornings shortly after six, before going to his office where he works to mid-afternoon and then returns to the track, staying there often until 10 p.m.

When his son Charles, who now heads the family's racing interests, was struck with polio in 1949, Jack was refused admission to visit his ailing son in an isolation unit. Jack propped a ladder outside the hospital window, scaling it almost daily for a month to visit Charles.

In 1979 Diamond was named a Freeman of the City of Vancouver and he was made an officer of the Order of Canada in the mid-'70s.

The Negev Dinner, at which he was honored in April, was a sellout, with more than 500 in attendance.

Boycott clauses concern B'nai Brith

TORONTO —
The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada is cautioning Canadian businesses to watch for anti-Israel boycott clauses in their quest for profitable Middle East contracts.

Contracts containing clauses of this nature contravene Ontario's Discriminatory Business Practices Act.

Trade Minister Michael Wilson has returned from a trip to the Middle East and sees the area as a promising market for Canadian Business. However the Ontario Science Centre was recently found guilty of breaking Ontario law when it agreed to comply with a boycott of Israel in a contract signed with the Sultinate of Oman in 1990.

Under its freedom of information request and the decision of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, the League recently began examining the documentation surrounding the Omani contract. The League found a memo requesting that all Science Centre personnel working on the project in Oman get a new passport if they had an Israeli stamp on their old one.

"We encourage Canadians to look towards the Middle East for opportunities, but we hope that they will not be blinded by profit margins," stated Marvin Kurz, Ontario regional chairman of the League.

"We call on our government agencies to monitor all future dealings in the area in order to facilitate contracts without contravening our own laws and standards," stated Kurz.

"It is clear from our examination of the Science Centre documents that the signing of the contract and the profit that came with it were the only things that concerned them. Our laws were secondary to those of Oman."

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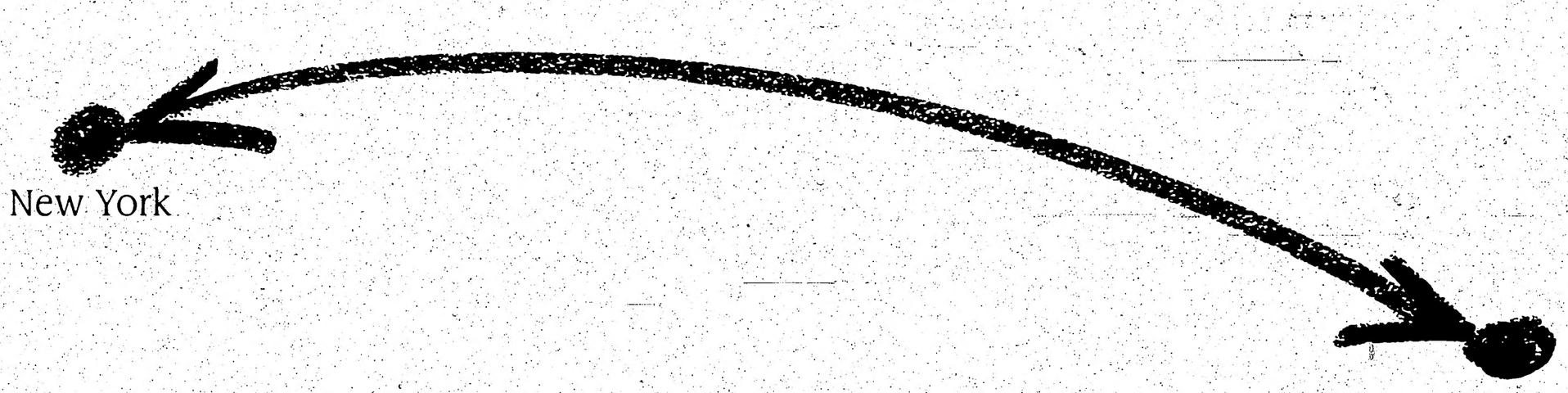

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World

U.S. asked to warn Syria over pact

TEL AVIV (JTA) —
Israel has asked the United States to convey a warning to the Syrian government that it will not tolerate changes in the military status quo in Lebanon as a result of the Syrian-Lebanese "brotherhood pact" signed in Damascus recently.

Israeli officials consider the accord a virtual takeover of Lebanon by Syria, with some calling it tantamount to annexation.

But the message sent via Washington was to caution President Hafez Assad not to exercise his new control in a way that would cross the metaphorical "red line" that has kept the two nations from clashing in Lebanon in recent years.

The most serious infringement would be the southward movement of Syrian troops toward the Israeli border, which Israel would not permit.

Otherwise, Israel will measure Syria's intentions by the extent to which it allows terrorist groups to operate against Israel from southern Lebanon.

Israeli officials have denied anything more than a heightened alert in response to events in Lebanon. Officers of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon confirm that there have been no unusual Israeli military preparations in the region.

Israeli experts acknowledge that Syria won a diplomatic victory by subjugating Lebanon. But one expert on Syria, Hebrew University Prof. Moshe Maoz, believes Assad will proceed with caution.

"I think Syria's aim is not to swallow Lebanon because they tried to do that in 1976 and had problems digesting it," Maoz said.

He was referring to the entry of Syrian troops into Lebanon, at the nominal request of the Arab League, to try to end the civil war that had broken out between Muslims and Christians.

"I think that Assad has now become more clever, more realistic. His control will be indirect," Maoz predicted.

But he expects Damascus to muzzle the Beirut press, which has operated freely until now. And while Syrian control may halt interethnic violence, there will be increased terrorist activity against the security zone and Israel, Maoz said.

According to other experts, the "brotherhood pact" contains no timetable for the withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon and thereby legitimizes their presence.

It weakens calls for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and turns the country into a Syrian protectorate, these experts say.

Converted Ethiopians left behind

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —
Israel does not have the resources to admit 3,000 Ethiopians who have converted to Judaism and that's why they were left behind by Operation Solomon, a leading Israeli official said here recently.

"These 3,000 represent 60,000 with the reunification of families and with our burdens we cannot accommodate them," said Brig.-Gen. Amira Dotan, (retired) head of the Jewish Agency in New York. She is the first woman to achieve such a high post in the Israel Defence Force.

She was replying to a question by Moshe Ronen, chairman of the Canadian Jewish Congress national executive, at a meeting of the Israel Action Committee which sponsored her appearance.

The question of the 3,000 Ethiopians who were once Jews and then converted to Christianity before deciding to return to Judaism is a vexatious one, she conceded. She quoted a high official of the Israeli government as telling her, "I don't know what to do with them."

She said she understands rabbinical emissaries are on their way to Ethiopia to see what can be done for them.

Operation Solomon also left behind 2,000 Jews who could not be located, she said, and the American Embassy has promised to find them and airlift them to Israel.

As well, 50 to 70 Jews were left behind in Addis Ababa because they missed their planes.

Dealing with another question by local activist Genya Intrator about Soviet Jews who have intermarried or lost their connection to Judaism, Doran said: "Anybody who claims to be a Jew is welcome. Anyone who wants to make aliya for me is a friend."

Israelis have responded with love, food and clothes to the new olim from Ethiopia and she said she was convinced that the mistakes made in the integration of immigrants from Operation Moses will not be made this time under Operation Solomon.

The dignity of the behavior of the Ethiopian parents and children is a joy to behold, Dotan said. Bowls of candies were put out in a rest room after their arrival, but not one child made a move to take a candy until their parents were assured that it was alright to do so.

The airlift from Addis Ababa started under cover of the rental of buses to take the Ethiopians to the zoo, she said. The operation was so well coordinated that a plane was landing in Israel every 15 minutes and was on its way again in 20 minutes with a fresh crew.

"The story of Operation Solomon is in the beautiful eyes of the children, the eyes which reveal their fears and expectations," she said.

Dotan was introduced by Larry Zimmerman, co-chairman of the Israel Action Committee, and thanked by Daniel Fine, the committee's new executive director.

Remaining Ethiopian Jews may yet be airlifted out

WASHINGTON (JTA) —
Ethiopia has assured the United States it will not prevent Jews remaining in the strife-torn country from emigrating, former Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (R-Minn.) said last week.

Boschwitz served as President Bush's special envoy to Ethiopia and is credited with helping to negotiate the Operation Solomon airlift that brought more than 14,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel on May 24 and 25.

The airlift began three days after Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam fled the country and ended scarcely three days before the capital fell to rebel forces.

Speaking to reporters after receiving the Presidential Citizens Medal at the White House, Boschwitz said, "We did get an agreement from the new government that there will be no barriers to their leaving," he said.

The agreement covers "several hundred perhaps" left in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, Boschwitz said.

It also covers "1,000 or 1,500 left up in Gondar," he said, referring to the northern province where most of the country's Jews lived before migrating to the capital.

Asked about the chances of getting to Israel the tens of thousands of Ethiopians who have converted from Judaism to Christianity, Boschwitz said, "I leave that to the liturgical department [in Israel]. That's a little bit out of my line."

But he added, "I don't think that the Ethiopian government has any particular reason to create barriers for anybody [who] wants to leave."

Bush, in presenting the medal to Boschwitz, said the airlift "unfolded with dazzling speed" and became "one of the most humanitarian airlifts in history."

"I think that for all Jews around the world this was an event of emotional proportions, and I just want you to know that I share in that emotional feeling, that something wonderful has happened," the president told 70 guests, mainly from the organized Jewish community.

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פון הענריע ריינהאַרץ

לערערין פון יידיש אין דער ביאַליק שולע

איך דערוואַרט אַלע מאָל דעם סוף פון לערניאָר מיט געמישטע געפילן. פון איין זייט בין איך פאַרשטענדלעך צופרידן, וואָס דאָס לערניאָר ענדיקט זיך און איך וועל קענען הנאה האָבן פון אַ גוט פאַרדינטער וואַקאַציע. פון דער צווייטער זייט ברענגט אויך דער סוף לערניאָר אַ פאַרדרוס, וואָס מיינע תלמידים פון אַכטן קלאַס וועלן ניט קענען ממשיך זיין דאָס לערנען זיך יידיש נאָך דעם ווי זיי גראַדואירן. טייל מאָל באַוואונדער איך זיך, וואָס זיי ווילן אָנגיין מיט שרייבן אַרבעטן און טעסטן וועט זיי ווייסן, אַז זיי וועלן ניט האָבן וואו פאָרצוזעצן אין פאַרטיפן זייער וויסן אין יידיש לימוד. דער פאַקט רעגט אָן מיינע געדאַנקען וועגן מצב פון יידיש אין טאָראָנטאָ.

איך געדענק די באַריכטן, בשעת דער לעצטער יידיש קאָנפערענץ, וועגן דעם מצב פון יידיש אין שולן אין אַנדערע קאַנאַדער שטעט, וואו מען לערנט יידיש פון קינדערגאָרטן ביזן 12־טן קלאַס. אין דער אייניקער שול וואו מען לערנט יידיש ביי אונדז אין שטאָט, לערנט מען דעם לימוד פון 3־טן ביזן 8־טן קלאַס, און דאָרט האָט מען אין דעם לערניאָר פאַרקלענערט די צאָל שעהן פון לערנען דעם לימוד. זעט אויס, אַז יידיש האָט ניט נושא־חן געווען אין די אויגן פון די היגע שול־טוער. כאָטש דער אינטערעס אין יידיש האָט זיך אין די לעצטע יאָרן שטאַרק פאַרגרעסערט, האָט דאָס ניט משפיע געווען די אָנפירונגען פון די היגע יידישע שולן, אַז זיי זאָלן אַרייננעמען יידיש אין זייער קוריקולום. עס איז ניטאָ די פאַרשטענדעניש, אַז יידיש דאַרף זיין אַן אינטעגראַלער טייל פון יידישער בילדונג. מען פאַרשטייט ניט, אַז לערנען יידיש מיינט ניט נאָר אויסלערנען אַ ביסל לייענען און שרייבן. עס מיינט אויך געבן די תלמידים אַ צוטריט צו די קולטור אוצרות, וואָס זיינען איינגעפלאַנצט אין יידיש לשון: עס מיינט פירן די תלמידים פון עבר צו דעם איצט, בעסער צו פאַרשטיין די קוואַלן, וואָס שפייזן זיי ווי יידן. דער אמת איז, אַז די קינדער, וואָס לערנען זיך יידיש, האָבן פאַרגעניגן דערפון. זיי זיינען שטאָלץ, ווען זיי קענען עפעס אָנשרייבן אויף יידיש; ווען זיי נעמען אָנטייל מיט יידישע לידער אָדער העציטאַציעס אין שול אונטערנעמונגען. עס איז געווען אַ פאַרגעניגן זיך צוצוקוקן מיט וואָס פאַראַ פריידיקע קינדער האָבן דורכגעפירט די יידיש־טעג ביי אונדז אין שול, אָדער ווי זיי האָבן אין דעם איצטיקן לערניאָר געגרייט בילדער און אילוסטראַציעס צו שלום־עליכם׳ס מעשיות פאַר דער קליינער אויסשטעלונג, וואָס מיר האָבן צוגעגרייט לכבוד שלום־עליכם׳ס 75־טן יאָרציים.

דער געענדערטער קלימאַט אַרום יידיש דריקט זיך אויס אין דער באַציאונג פון אַ סך עלטערן צום לימוד. בעת עלטערן קאָנפערענצן דריקן זיי אויס זייער צופרידנקייט, וואָס די קינדער לערנען זיך יידיש; גאַנץ אָפט פרוואָון זיי אַליין רעדן יידיש, אָדער זיי ווילן וויסן צי עס זיינען דאָ יידיש קורסן פאַר דערוואַקסענע. שטעלט זיך די פראַגע: אויב עס האָט זיך פאַרשטאַרקט דער אינטערעס אין יידיש, פאַרוואָס שפּיגלט זיך עס אַזוי ווייניק אָפּ אין לעבן פון דער טאָראָנטער יידישער קהילה? פאַרוואָס זאָל דאָס יידישע שול־וועזן האַלטן פאַרהאַקט טיר און טויער פאַר יידיש? פאַרוואָס זאָל דאָרט יידיש ניט פאַרנעמען קיין וויכטיק אָרט? פאַרוואָס זאָל די אייניקע יידישע מיטלשול עקשנות׳דיק אָפּוואָרפן יידיש ווי אַן אויסוואָל אין זייערע יודאַיסטישע לימודים? פאַרוואָס זאָל די מדרשה, דער יידישער לערער סעמינאַר, אויסשולן בלויז העכערע־אישע, אנן ניט אויך יידישע לערער? לשם אמת מוז מען זאָגן, אַז צום טייל איז דאָס די שולד פון די יידיש־רעדנדיקע יידן ביי אונדז אין שטאָט. מען איז ניט געווען גענוג אַגרעסיוו, מען האָט ניט צו שטאַרק פאַרלאַנגט, אַז יידיש זאָל האָבן אַן אָרט אין די לעצטע יאָרן שטאַרקער אין דער אַלגעמיינער שולע. מען איז ניט גענוג אויפגעבראַכט, ווען יידיש איז אַראָפּגעפאַלן פון דער סדר־היום. מען איז ניט גענוג אַקטיוו געווען, ווען יידיש איז אַראָפּגעפאַלן פון דער סדר־היום. מען איז ניט גענוג אַקטיוו געווען, ווען יידיש איז אַראָפּגעפאַלן פון די לערנפּלענער. מען איז ניט גענוג אַקטיוו געווען, ווען יידיש איז אַראָפּגעפאַלן פון די לערנפּלענער. מען איז ניט גענוג אַקטיוו געווען, ווען יידיש איז אַראָפּגעפאַלן פון די לערנפּלענער.

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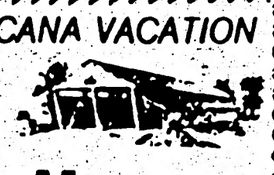

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Front Line

COMMENTARY

Jews have right to counteract destructive intentions

By
RUTH WISSE

Over the past 15 years, "dissent" appears to have replaced "identity" as the major crisis of the North American Jewish community.

Jews ask the rhetorical question, "Don't we have the right to disagree with the policies of the State of Israel as a way of expressing our concern for its future?" A posture of opposition to Israel, struck originally by a small coalition of oldtime socialists and New Left graduates of the '60s, has been taken up by increasing numbers of Jewish professionals and lay people in the mainstream of Jewish communal life.

Who could possibly deny anyone, much less an American Jew, the "right" to express himself on everything under the sun? Abraham challenged God. The Talmud opens everything to question. "Two Jews — three synagogues" conveys the weird pride of this community in its capacity for disagreement. Just as North American democracies guarantee their citizens the right to free speech, so Judaism allows inquiry and debate as part of the process of human development. We have no Ayatollah to threaten our multitudinous Salman Rushdies.

That is precisely why the question of so-called dissent is so patently false. Of course Jews have the right to oppose the policies of Israel. The point is rather that in the free world, they also have the right to oppose the policies of Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Libya, Algeria, Iran, and Iraq. They have the right to demand the repeal of the UN resolution equating Zionism with racism. They have the right to demand the immediate recognition of Israel on the part of all Arab governments. They have the right to expose the Arab boycott, the longest and most powerful economic boycott in modern history.

Ruth R. Wisse

Jews, in other words, have the right to try to counteract the destructive intentions of their declared enemies, and to mitigate the effects of the ferocious propaganda campaign to delegitimate Israel. This is neither Germany of the 1930s nor Russia under czars or Soviets. Jews are the only ethnic minority in North America faced with an ideology of hatred, and theirs is the only homeland, of the more than 100 that have joined the United Nations since 1948, that is exposed to the humiliation of being kept off the map. But granted full freedom of expression as citizens, North American Jews have every right to expose the Arab war against their people.

Everyone knows that the Arab war against Israel continues because of the absolute lack of symmetry between Arabs and Muslims on one hand, and Jews on the other. Were there really an "Arab-Israel conflict," as people pretend, or a conflict between Jews and Palestinian Arabs over possession of territory, the struggle would have ended in 1948, after the first Arab-Israel war. The struggle did not end because the putative Arab-Israel conflict is in reality a one-sided Arab war against Israel, and because Arab governments refuse to credit the reality of a Jewish state. The struggle will end only when Arabs and Muslims substitute pluralism for hegemony as their political vision of the world.

North American Jews can either bring pressure to bear on the enemies of Israel, or they can add their own special voice to the chorus against Israel. When North American Jews ask for the right to criticize Israel within the context of the ongoing war against it, they are really asking: "Don't we have the right to join the critics of Israel despite the political harm that will result to Israel?" They know that standing up to the assault of negative propaganda is difficult, humiliating, and painful, whereas criticizing Israel is easy, popular, and rewarding. They want to be exonerated in advance for the damage they know their criticism will do.

Notice that when the Jewish critics of Israel get up to speak, or write to the editor, or otherwise make their opinions known, they usually begin with a protestation. First, they tell us how much they support, appreciate, love Israel, and then they launch their attack on Shamir, Sharon, this or the other policy of the democratically elected government. Why would they have to protest their affection if they thought their assault was likely to help their fellow Jews? Why else announce your good intentions except to excuse its probably damaging consequences?

When political support for Israel is straightforward, it does not have to announce its credentials. Support for Israel tries to offset the enormous political and economic pressures against it by demanding concession from Arab governments. It demands to know: By what right do Arab governments deny entry to visitors who have previously visited the State of Israel? By what right do they try to erase a country that has existed for almost half a century?

The obvious question for Jews to be asking is straightforward and clear: how can we best help Israel resist the ongoing war against it? It stands to reason that Jews, who bear a special responsibility for the fate of the Jewish homeland, should be in the forefront of its defence. But they have a continent to mobilize.

Nothing will ever excuse their failure, and no one can absolve them from blame should they err in their political choices.

OPINION

Editors compile rebbe's views on philosophical issues

By
RABBI J. IMMANUEL SCHOCHET

The Lubavitcher Rebbe regularly speaks out on current issues and problems in Jewish life, orally and in writing. An anthology of the Rebbe's letters on various philosophical and scientific challenges to Torah-teachings was published some time ago in Israel (*Emunah Umada, Kfar Chabad 1977*). The editors appended the Rebbe's views on the Holocaust and the problem of suffering. As closely stated in that book (pp. 113 and 115), these were paraphrased from unedited transcripts of two public addresses, recorded by individual listeners, freely translated and reworded in the form of a dialogue.

The editors of *Emunah Umada* formulated the first question: on the premise that G-d relates to man "measure for measure," how could there be a Holocaust of six million Jews which clearly goes beyond any conceivable measure? The Rebbe's response states, first of all, that this question has meaning only in a purely religious context. When one believes in G-d, and that He is the just judge of the world, the question makes sense.

In short, the Rebbe concludes that ultimately the question is unanswerable. It is altogether presumptuous and absurd for finite man to try and understand the Infinite: "Can you by searching find out G-d?" (Job 11:7) "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways." (Isaiah 55:8).

The second question seeks some philosophical perspective on human suffering. The answer offers various analogies (e.g., a medical operation) how something may be painful, frustrating, beyond understanding, and yet recognized as beneficial in context of the total picture, when considering the "before-and-after" aspects.

Articles 5-6 explain (a) that we can and must question and protest the experience of evil (following the precedents of Abraham, Moses, Jeremiah etc.), and (b) how this is consistent with faith in the unquestioned goodness of G-d.

Question 2, taken in isolation, has led to misunderstandings. It induced a highly critical article in Israel by a member of the Knesset who was a partisan-fighter. The Rebbe personally answered her with a long letter dated 16th of Elul 5740 (1980), and since published in *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 21 (Brooklyn N.Y. 1983), pp. 397-400, and elsewhere.

In this letter, the Rebbe rejects categorically that we may call the Holocaust a "Punishment." Tragic events of the past, accompanied by warnings and exhortations of prophets of G-d, can be defined as punishments. "In our times, however, we must necessarily say that (what happened) is analogous to an 'operation' " of which we do not know the why and the what-for. A medical operation for whatever reasons, can never be referred to as a "punishment" for the patient (p. 39B).

The Rebbe emphasizes the principle that those who perpetrated the crimes of the Holocaust can never be seen as passive "tools of Heaven." Whatever the Divine intent may have been, those criminals acted by their own free choice and for their own reasons, and therefore are fully responsible for their actions (ibid.).

Indeed, I do not see how one can say otherwise in view of the Biblical prohibition of *ona'at devarim* (to wrong someone by speech) which Halachah regards more heinous than monetary wrong. The classical example of this prohibition is to say to someone who suffers that his affliction is a Divine punishment, as in the rhetorical question of Job's companions, "whoever perished being innocent?" (*Baba Metzia* 58b; *Choshen Mishpat* 228:4) Only G-d can define the status of any event.

(Rabbi Schochet is rabbi of Kielcer Congregation, and professor of philosophy at Humber College.)

ANALYSIS

Holocaust's last survivors try to sort out secret travail

By
ARNOLD AGES

"The trauma of our ransacked childhood," — that is the way Serge Klarsfeld of Paris characterized his experiences as a hidden child in his speech at The First International Gathering of Children Hidden During World War II.

That trauma was re-experienced in diverse ways by the more than 1,600 people (far exceeding the projections of the conference organizers) who participated in the two-day event at the new York Marriott Marquis Hotel on May 25 and 27 and who were exposed to emotion-charged lectures, workshops and exhibits. The conference, sponsored and funded by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith along with 12 other institutions and more than a hundred individual donors, was one of the most inspiring and important meetings I have ever attended.

Delegates from the United States, Canada (more than 40 from Toronto and Montreal), Belgium, Holland, France and Poland gathered to exchange stories about their youth in Christian families, orphanages, monasteries and convents.

Significantly, the largest number of hidden children at the conference, after the United States, came from Belgium, a fact which speaks eloquently about Belgian gentiles and their role in rescuing Jewish children. Because of the participation of Belgian and French delegates in the conference, simultaneous translations into French by a former UN interpreter were made available to delegates.

One of the central focuses of the conference was the bulletin boards set up in the main reception area for delegates. Those boards featured haunting requests for information about relatives and friends who had been hidden children.

Arnold Ages

The boards were also used for photographs showing young girls and boys under which information was solicited about their whereabouts. As I looked at a picture of two young Jewish girls wearing the Jewish star, a man standing next to me explained that the photograph had been taken in Antwerp.

How did he know that? Because he had been raised in the same city, knew the commercial photographer who had taken the picture and had himself been photographed at the same site. A hidden child himself, he told me that at the corner of the photograph on display one could see the murky outline of an advertisement calling on Belgians to join the SS units fighting in the Soviet Union.

Forty-six years after the end of the Second World War, the last survivors of the Holocaust, in some ways, the most fragile and vulnerable of that group, met to rehearse their collective tragedy and try to sort out and understand the secret travail they have been living with since their days in hiding.

Conference organizers helped to facilitate that exercise by setting up 20 different workshops (all oversubscribed) where hidden children, their spouses and their children could discuss subjects such as fear of abandonment, guilt and loneliness of surviving, lost childhood, understanding the childhood experience, fear of relationships, keeping it secret and whose child am I?

I attended several different workshops and was humbled by the depth and ranges of emotion expressed. Workshops leaders had no trouble getting people to divulge information about their experiences. In fact, sessions were so crowded and the time so short that many participants did not have the chance to ventilate fully the feelings they wanted to communicate.

Yaffa Eliach, the author of *Hassidic Tales of the Holocaust*, spoke for many of the hidden children present at the conference when she criticized Jewish historians for neglecting the plight of the hidden children in their accounts of the war. Eliach noted, in a plenary address to almost 2,000 people, that while the rescuers of Jews are mentioned in the *Encyclopedia of the Holocaust*, published in Israel, nothing is said about the incredible trauma experienced by hidden children.

Eliach said that the trauma was exacerbated by the indiffference and disbelief exhibited by Jews faced with the tales of abandonment and hiding that children told after the war. As a hidden child herself, Eliach indicated that even in Israel where she settled after the war, people dismissed her horrendous descriptions of her mother's death and her own hiding as "products of a vivid imagination."

Probably the most dramatic moment in Eliach's address came when she said that Jewish families were doomed because of their bonding. "Families that stayed together perished together," she said. "Perhaps if Jewish families had been able to part with their children, Anne Frank might be here today delivering this keynote address instead of me."

One of the reasons Eliach lived to speak at the Hidden Child Conference was because of the righteousness of gentiles who risked their lives to protect Jews who were being hunted down like animals. In recognition of their heroic acts more than a dozen of the rescuers were honored at a plenary session during which their individual acts of courage were described to the 2,000 people in attendance. The applause which greeted their names and exploits was thunderous and prolonged.

The "last survivors" reached no conclusions during their deliberations, for none could be reached about experiences that go beyond the normal experiences of childhood. Perhaps the conference brought a balm which, if it did not heal, at least, eased some of the pain of those who went to revisit the memories of yesteryear.

It was good to hear, however, that a second conference is being planned for next year in Israel.

Editorial/Letters

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Ingathering of exiles

The new provisional government in Ethiopia has assured the United States that Jews still remaining in that strife-torn country are free to leave. There will be "no barriers" if they wish to emigrate, reports Rudy Boschwitz, President George Bush's special emissary to Ethiopia. This is good news, given the fact that as many as several thousand Jews somehow missed Operation Solomon, the meticulously planned Israeli airlift which spirited some 14,000 Jews out of Ethiopia on May 24 and May 25, three days after Ethiopian strongman Mengistu Haile Mariam fled the country and scarcely three days before Addis Ababa fell to rebel forces.

It is incumbent on Israel to complete Operation Solomon, which ranks as one of the greatest and most inspirational humanitarian efforts of our time. Operation Solomon took the world by surprise, but it was the latest chapter in a history of spectacular rescue operations of Jews mounted by Israel since 1948. From Operation Magic Carpet, which brought in some 45,000 Yemenite Jews, to Operation Exodus, which is still bringing in masses of Soviet Jews, Israel has done its duty and gathered to its shores farflung, vulnerable Jewish communities.

The Jews of Ethiopia, cut off from the Diaspora for so long and yet so faithful to their traditions, never wavered in their desire to return to their ancestral home. Persecuted and demeaned and subjected to starvation, disease and civil war, they never sought anything more than deliverance from a plight that was not of their making.

Few observers were untouched by the heart-warming scenes which unfolded as they were flown to Israel in an operation that was at once an impressive demonstration of technology, imagination and will. "Before our eyes an entire culture was uprooted from its life source and brought (to Israel), to be replanted," wrote Israeli novelist David Grossman in an inspiring turn of phrase.

We trust that Israel will finish the historic task of liberating Ethiopian Jewry. The opportunity lies at hand.

Testimony in stone

"Even unto them will I give in My house And within My Walls a monument and a memorial." This verse from Isaiah 56:5, containing the Hebrew terms Yad Vashem, is the source of the name for the great Holocaust centre in Israel.

That facility and its Canadian branch are to be congratulated for the Holocaust monument they dedicated on June 2 in Toronto's Earl Bales Park. Created by the eminent sculptor, Ernie Raab, the stark obelisk which now stands astride one of the busiest thoroughfares in Canada is a fitting memorial and monument to the martyred millions who perished in the Holocaust.

While it is inexact to say (as one of the speakers suggested at the dedication ceremony) that the Yad Vashem monument at Earl Bales Park is the first and only Holocaust memorial in Canada — Kitchener's Jewish community had a small one more than two decades ago in its cemetery — by virtue of its imposing size and artistic excellence moreover, the Raab memorial is unique.

Soaring heavenward, the swirling vortices of the Raab monument conveys, in the imperfect but nonetheless eloquent language of metal and stone, the anguish and despair which engulfed the Jewish victims of Nazi barbarism.

The names of the concentration camps in which so many met their deaths are affixed to the base of the chimney-like monument and provide mute but powerful testimony to the geography of annihilation.

The monument is a stark reminder of what happened to the Jewish people in the age of statelessness and vulnerability. In the 1930s when there was no Jewish state in which persecuted Jews could seek asylum, the Holocaust consumed them.

In the 1990s the State of Israel provides a welcoming foyer for hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews and the entire airlifted Jewish community of Ethiopia.

The Yad Vashem memorial in North York will, as many of the speakers suggested at the dedication, become a central gathering place for the Jews of Toronto and Canada.

There, in the years and decades and centuries to follow, Canadian Jews will assemble regularly to honor the memory of the victims of the Holocaust and meditate on their own fate in a free society.

TO THE EDITOR:

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

* * *

WILL THE CRUCIFIX GO?

In the April 25 issue of the CJN, Leslie Lutsky talked about his visit to city council, his comments about the crucifix, and that a couple of non-identified councillors applauded his speech.

While I don't remember who else applauded, I can admit to being one of the noise-makers. I have raised the issue of the crucifix on various occasions.

Several weeks after Mayor Jean Dore's election, when the prayer at the beginning of council meetings was replaced by a moment of silent contemplation, I wrote to the administration suggesting that the secularisation of council be made complete by the removal of the crucifix.

I even offered $25 to buy it! When six months had gone by without an answer, I repeated the request. A representative of the secretary-general's office wrote back to tell me that my letter, like the first one six months earlier, had been forwarded to the executive committee office, because it was seen as a "political" matter.

The political attache of the executive committee told me to bring the matter to caucus myself. But since my stay inside the Montreal Citizens' Movement caucus was about to end at that time, the matter got no further.

I remember that architect Norman Spatz raised the matter of crucifixes in municipal court. I think he had more success than I.

When the lower floors of City Hall will be renovated, if there is any money left after spending $300,000 on the mayor's windows and another $100,000 on mahogany finishings, the council chamber will be redesigned and it is my hunch that the crucifix might disappear at that time.

Sam Boskey
City Councillor
Montreal

* * *

JEWS ALREADY WORKING FOR UNITED CANADA

Re: Opinion column of May 16 by Maurice Lucow.

Lucow must be reminded that things he's suggesting that Jews should be involved in working for a United Canada is already a fact of life, and Jews are in the forefront for unity in diversity. Because of the open society and because of all the great Jews in government, courts, as mayors, academics, etc., they all have an opportunity to work for a United Canada through the ranks of the high places they occupy in business, professions and academic life.

As an example, the City of Cote St. Luc with the mayor and council, all being Jews, will have a Canada Day parade on Sunday, June 30, with fireworks, barbecue and entertainment. A further example, is the interview of Gerry Weiner, minister of multiculturalism, in your May 23 issue wherein he expresses determination and resolve to save Canada from falling apart and has confidence that we will weather the current constitutional crisis.

Jewish organizations like Hadassah, Pioneer Women Naamat, CJC, CZF and B'nai Brith are backed by their membership for the purposes that the organizations or associations have been established and must direct their energies to that end and generally are doing a good job of it.

These organizations have always encouraged their individual members to be involved in Canadian affairs, but as organizations they have their own "raison d'etre."

Jews are active in every aspect of Canadian life. They are in politics, health, social, medical and environmental organizations. That is where as Jewish Canadians, they can best work for Canadian causes and progress and above all for a united Canada.

David Finestone
Montreal

* * *

Lucie Kugler

HERO'S WIDOW IN NEED

Silence is a sin.

I think it is important the members of the Jewish community know that Mrs. Victor Kugler, the wife of the man who hid Anne Frank is ill and in need of help.

Some years ago I made a film about Victor Kugler and I believe that he was a modern, quiet saint. He never looked for a reward for what he did. He died with little money, but still retained a faith in mankind as did the child he protected, Anne Frank, who became a symbol of the Holocaust.

Now his wife needs us. Anyone wishing to respond to this request should contact her friend Stan Smerlik at 750-0808 or 604-1293.

Harry Rasky
Producer
The Man Who Hid Anne Frank
Toronto

* * *

ISRAEL AND UN

Since 1975 the UN has equated Zionism with racism. Operation Solomon, which airlifted over 15,000 poor, helpless, black Ethiopian Jews to safety in Israel is a good example of that "racism." These refugees included many aged and sick, are mostly backward, even illiterate, in western terms.

But they had been yearning for many years to "go home," and more recently, to be reunited with younger, stronger family members who had managed to escape earlier. How many such immigrants would Canada accept? Zionist Israel not only accepted them — she went considerable lengths to get them out.

Israel has carried out similar actions in the past, including 600,000 refugees from Arab lands after the 1948 War of Independence — roughly equal to the number of Palestinian refugees who fled Israel at that time. Israel welcomes these refugees and absorbs them — something of a contrast to the treatment of Palestinian refugees by their brethren.

This raises two points:

- With this attitude toward Zionism/racism, is it any wonder why Israel does not want the UN involved in its peace neogitiations?
- If the Arabs treated their refugees as the Zionists treat theirs, there would be no Arab/Israeli problem today.

Yitzhak Kalin
Ottawa

* * *

DECRIES ORTHODOX STANCE

On Yom Hashoah 1991, I attended a community rally and memorial at the Beth Emeth synagogue. At this service, the guest speaker was Rabbi Avi Weiss of New York. Rabbi Weiss is a leading Jewish activist in the world.

He has fought for almost every conceivable cause of the Jewish people ranging from the State of Israel, to oppressed Jewry all over the world, to the convent issue at the concentration camps. He is a man who examplifies the traits of Pidyon Shevuyim and Pikuach Nefesh.

Following the program that evening, I approached Rabbi Weiss and asked him if he would visit the university campuses in Toronto to talk to the students. He said he would, and a visit is now being arranged.

I also asked two prominent Orthodox rabbis in the community if they would like to have Rabbi Weiss speak at their shul on that evening. Both declined, citing that Rabbi Weiss has spoken in non-Orthodox venues in this city, and is therefore of questionable credibility as an Orthodox rabbi.

I am a fully observant Jew, and of this I am not ashamed. I am ashamed of the leaders of my community who refuse to see the good that has come from a person like Rabbi Weiss, or from the activism of the less religious among us.

Everyone around the world is looking on in awe at the miracle that is currently befalling the Jewish people. Millions of Soviet Jews are now being allowed to make aliya and bring the Mashiach that much closer.

Even the "Orthodox" establishment is ecstatic over these developments. But if it weren't for activists like Rabbi Weiss and the secular Zionist organizations in our community, there would still be four million prisoners of Zion languishing in the Soviet Union.

What I see is a bad case of social hypocrisy among Orthodox leaders when they tell their children that the reason for the destruction of the Beit Hamikdash was Sin'at Chinam — hatred for no reason, and then turn around and tell me that a man like Rabbi Weiss is not welcome among them because of some of his ideals or because of his venues.

The Orthodox establishment should open their eyes to reality. Because they choose not to handle social issues of World Jewry such as Soviet Jewry or hosting a Yom Hashoah observance in their shuls, a person like Rabbi Weiss has no choice but to speak at a non-Orthodox venue. As a result, there is continued low turnout at these events by the Orthodox portion of our community and the circle repeats itself.

There are exceptions though. The Shaarei Shomayim synagogue has hosted Rabbi Weiss recently. They are to be commended for it.

Yehuda Poch
Toronto

Name Game

There is a story in almost every Jewish surname and Toronto lawyer FRED M. CATZMAN has been researching their origins over the past few years. Mr. Catzman reports on his research in The CJN.

* * *

BARSCH — BERG

A good example of the problems that beset the onomatologist (a 50-cent word to describe the guy who tries to track down the origin of names) is to consider the name Barsch —

- Is it toponymic from Barasj (pronounced Barshi) in the Ukraine, or
- Is it acronymic from Ben reb Shimon?

Similarly with Berg — does it refer to a hill or is it an acronym for B'nai Rabonim v'Gaonim, the sons of rabbis and academicians?

Opinion

Says Reb Mendel Kotzker:

"If I am I because I am I and you are you because ..."

By
J. B. SALSBERG

My esteemed readers; the caption that I placed over this week's column may, (if the editor passes it) cause you to wonder whether the proverbial summer heat — *"der Tammuz"* — has not, as they say in Yiddish, "entered my head." In other words, whether I didn't go nutty. . . .

I, therefore, hasten to assure you that according to the best authority (myself), I have not yet, as they say, lost my marbles . . . So don't be scared and don't run from me. Stay. Please stay. Yes, you may even be grateful for having remained.

Thank you! Thank you for staying.

Now that we are all calm again and in a receptive mood allow me to explain: The unusual caption over this column is, as you surely noticed, in quotation marks. That means that it is not my genius that produced it, but that it is a quotation from what someone else has said.

The "someone," this time, is no less an authority than Rabbi (Reb) Menachem Mendel of Kotzk, or, as our common usage has it, Reb Mendel Kotzker.

I am a great admirer of Reb Mendel Kotzker's outlook and his continuous digging for the essence of things, rather than accept the meaningless "findings" of those who only scratched the surface of things. Also because Reb Mendel Kotzker did not seek to establish a "Rabbinic dynasty" that, in not a few instances, demonstrated that "Rabbinic Crown-princelings" were not quite worthy of their ancestors.

J.B. Salsberg

There was only one "Kotzker" and his name was Menachem Mendel of Kotzk. And when people quote or refer to "Der Kotzker," everyone knows that it refers to Reb Mendel.

So, the meaningful caption of this week's column is a quote from the Kotzker Rebbe and his complete "saying" is as follows:

"If I am I because I am I, and you are you because you are you, then I am I and you are you. But if I am I because you are you, and you are you because I am I, then I am not I, and you are not you."

Now, that quotation is, as they say nowadays, "a mouthful." Read it, and read it again please to get the full essence of it.

Time to get on with this column, so:

It is a great Jewish tradition to read a chapter of *Pirke Avot* referred to in English as the Ethics of the Fathers, every Saturday afternoon during the summer months. (The popular reference to this "selection" from the Mishnah is "Peirik.")

Well, for the last number of years it was my very pleasant preoccupation to select and to render to you, on the pages of this renowned Jewish publication, extracts from Peirik as well as selections of "pearls of wisdom" from the lips or pens of more current Jewish scholars and leaders. I intend, and hope to be able to continue this practice this year as well. Amen.

And so here we go. From the Peirik:

• Rabban Simon, the son of Gamaliel, said, "On three things the world exists; on truth, on justice and on peace. As it is said, 'execute truth, justice and peace in your gates.' "

• Hillel said, "Separate not thyself from the congregation (community); trust not in thyself until the day of thy death; judge not thy fellow (friend) until thou art come into his place; and say not anything which cannot be understood at once, in the hope that it will be understood in the end; neither say: 'When I have leisure I will study;' perchance thou wilt not have leisure."

• He (Hillel) once saw a skull floating on the face of the water and he said to it: "Because thou drownedst others, they have drowned thee, and in the end they that drowned thee shall themselves be drowned."

And now, leaping across the centuries, let us turn to the Kotzker Rebbe:

• The rebbe of Kotzk, (Reb Mendel) once said of a famous rabbi: "That's a Tsadik in a fur coat." His disciples asked him what he meant by this. "Well," he explained, "One man buys himself a fur coat in winter, another buys kindling. What is the difference between them? The first wants to keep only himself warm, the second wants to give warmth to others too."

Enough for one week? It may be.

After all it is summertime and even the Peirik does not wish to exhaust us.

Let's meet in a peaceful and receptive mood next week.

I will be looking for you.

Lubavitch, Reform fight over synagogue

Inter-religious rivalry hurts Moscow's Jewish community

By
W. GUNTHER PLAUT

A year ago, I reported on the establishment of a third synagogue in Moscow. Until then, there was the great shul on Archipov Street and the Lubavitcher Habad shul in the Marina Rosche district. The new synagogue, calling itself Hineni, attracted large numbers of young Jewish activists and affiliated itself with the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

Now comes a letter from Rabbi Richard G. Hirsch, the executive director of the World Union and chairman of the Actions Committee of the World Zionist Organization, who writes from Jerusalem:

"Last year the Hineni leadership and I met with government officials to request that the congregation be registered as an officially recognized religious institution. During the conversation, the deputy chairman for religious affairs promised us that he would make every effort to have one of the many buildings which formerly belonged to the Moscow Jewish community transferred to Hineni for its services and cultural activities. We made inquiries and discovered that a fine building, now serving as a folk art centre, had once been a synagogue.

"We immediately proceeded to request the Moscow authorities to transfer the building to Congregation Hineni. Even before final approval had been given, the centre permitted Hineni to use the facilities on an ongoing basis for Shabbat services and other activities. The synagogue was dedicated last November at a special service when a Sefer Torah donated by Temple Sholom in Cedar Grove, New Jersey, was given to the congregation."

Rabbi Plaut

So far, so good, but inter-religious rivalry began to raise its ugly head. The Lubavitcher Chassidim, on learning of the impending transfer, told the Soviet authorities that the synagogue was really theirs and that, in any case, Reform Judaism was not an authentic religious but a political movement. As proof, they cited the fact that Rabbi Hirsch was a "leading Zionist." The end result was that the Moscow authorities closed down the synagogue altogether — to all Jews.

The moment I read of this lamentable incident I recalled that toward the end of the 18th century, the *mitnaggedim*, under the leadership of the Gaon of Vilna, had also approached the Russian authorities to curb the activities of the new burgeoning Chassidic movement. In the ensuing squabble, Chassidic leaders were imprisoned and so was the Gaon himself.

The latter, indubitably the greatest Halakhist of his time, had issued a proclamation which contained the following judgement on the Chassidim:

"I will continue to stand on guard, and it is the duty of every believing Jew to repudiate and pursue them (the Chassidim) with all manner of afflictions and subdue them because they have sin in their hearts and are like a sore on the body of Israel."

Now, 200 years later, those who were then on the receiving end of obloquy have now turned the table on other newcomers in the panoply of Jewish religious movements.

This is in itself sad enough, but it also happens in the midst of an ever-expanding tide of Russian anti-Semitism — despite the fact that democratization inches forward in the Soviet Union. The new anti-Semites claim that Jews and Zionists are responsible for the current political, social and economic deterioration of the Soviet Union.

They believe that Russia must stand on its three traditional principles: Christian Orthodoxy, autocracy and nationality. Taking advantage of glasnost, they appeal to the masses through public events, publications and the airwaves by invoking traditional anti-Semitic canards. In addition, many of these groups oppose a Soviet-Israeli relationship while advocating stronger ties with Arab nations. The "branding" of Rabbi Hirsch as a leading Zionist was therefore in fact grist for the mills of Russian anti-Semites.

Which leads one to the ever-recurring question: Must it be that when Jews are beset by external foes they resort to fighting with each other, following the inglorious example of the Kamza-Bar Kamza rivalry in Roman days, during the siege of Jerusalem?

Food is a touchy subject

Conservative confab prompts ecological soul-searching

By
ELAINE KAHN

Those of us who grew up in the '60s and early '70s remember trying to convince adults that ecologists were not lunatics.

Now they're the establishment — except maybe in the post office, where it's almost impossible to get plain stamps. Most postal workers hand you books of stamps, sheathed in cardboard — "convenient," but sheer waste. So which sub-clause of the Mulroney environmental plan does this fall under?

My kids haven't quite got the point yet about wasting their abilities, we're mutually avoiding the heart-to-heart about wasting oneself sexually and they still just don't get it when I tell them that not taking care of their possessions is a form of waste. But they know about recycling and, until they heard it involved worms, were big on composting.

I'd be big on composting too if it were more convenient, with composters built into kitchens and a way found to easily separate dry garbage from wet without making various garbage cans part of the kitchen decor.

That's somewhat tongue-in-cheek — I do believe we need to do this stuff. But I also wonder about — are you ready for this? — environmental sexism.

Isn't it the largely female secretarial pool that's in charge of making sure office paper is recycled? Mainly women washing more diapers, as paper diapers become unacceptable? And isn't it many of the labor-saving household devices and products developed over the last several decades that are now under attack as bad for the environment?

Elaine Kahn

When your child comes home from school asking for less packaging in his or her lunch, who's got the headache — the father or the mother or the (probably female) nanny?

So last month we made our annual pilgrimage to the Rabbinical Assembly convention in the Catskills at the Concord. It's not the world's most fascinating place, but what it lacks in glitz it more than makes up for in the comfort familiarity brings — between sessions, I can always find my husband in the video arcade, after hours I can always find our "gang" in the bar.

Convention was boring this year, in its formal aspects. The ostensible theme was outreach to intermarried couples and their families, but many of the more creative resolutions about it were tabled. Perhaps they will resurface — but my hunch is the heat next year will be generated by homosexuality, as the law committee of the Conservative movement is expecting to issue its latest papers on the topic this fall.

But the convention was delightful on a personal level. For the first time since we all lived in New York, every member of our immediate "gang" was there.

More important, no one had bad news. There'd been healthy babies born to two couples since last convention, the last unmarried member of the gang had married in December, our "rebbe" and friend, Rabbi Neil Gillman, had just received the National Jewish Book Award for his recent work *Sacred Fragments*.

And it took us only one meal before we located Pat.

Pat, whom we discovered several years ago, is the kind of Catskills waitress you read about in books — which is why it would be anachronistic to use the more politically correct "server" or "waitperson."

"Have a taste of that. Why don't you have that as a side? Do you want something special for the baby? And how are you all doing today?" Always swift and always smiling.

We reserved a table at her station for the duration.

I think every item on the menu made its way to our table every meal, always more servings per course than there were people, every extra entree still adorned with all the trimmings, whether or not they were ordered or wanted. Or touched.

I wonder if the Concord composts.

I've never seen so much food on one table in my life — although I've tasted better, which is why I never ate more than one of any given course (OK, so maybe except dessert some meals).

I got so caught up in the camaraderie and in the phenomenon of Pat that nothing hit me wrong until the meal at which fundraising was done for MAZON, the project (MAZON Canada here) to fight hunger, among both Jews and others. Then it hit me hard.

And what hit harder was that none of my friends even commented on the irony (the scandal?) of it all. Nor did I mention it to anyone but my husband, not wanting to cut into everyone's fun.

Yes, it did bother me more because most of my gang of fun-loving gluttons were rabbis. Though I don't like admitting publicly that we do have the right to expect a consistently higher ethical awareness from religious people, rabbis or not — many people misuse such an admission.

And food is a touchy subject. Sometimes, when our budget looks shaky, I suggest to my husband that, perhaps for a month or so, a pantry with four shelves stocked with food, instead of the usual five, might be alright, and it'll be OK if the fridge is not as packed as my mother's. He always says "no" — cutting down on food just feels too close to poverty for him.

And, if truth be told, for me. Not being able to afford expensive restaurants is OK — not being able to get out to one altogether is a restriction I don't want to live with. And, luckily, don't have to.

But I think about Pat and I wonder how much she makes as a waitress. After all these years, I don't know her last name or whether she has a family or friends. I can see that she loves her job, but I wonder whether she can afford, in a year, the amount of food she sees wasted in front of her in a week.

And I wonder whether, next year, I'll have more guts among my friends.

Features

Myths confronted

Six countries remember Holocaust

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

How do we face the Holocaust? How do we remember it? Especially in countries on whose soil Nazi atrocities took place? Judith Miller grapples with these questions in *One By One By One* (Simon & Schuster), a penetrating report of how the Holocaust is remembered in six different countries.

Miller, a New York Times editor and foreign correspondent, visited Germany, Austria, Holland, France, the Soviet Union and the United States with the intention of coming to grips with these complex issues. To a remarkable degree, she succeeds in clarifying the tension between "the very human desire to repress memories of that era and the need not to forget it."

Appropriately enough, she begins her inquiry in the Federal Republic of Germany, a country where Holocaust exhibitions and commemorations have become so common that they are virtually "a cottage industry." (Miller, having written her book before the unification of Germany, deals exclusively with West Germany. She excludes East Germany, which no longer exists, from her reportage.)

Germany's confrontation with its Nazi past, she writes, passed through several stages. For about the first decade after the Second World War, German historians acknowledged the enormity of the disaster bequeathed by the Nazis, but left unexplored the worst of Nazi crimes, including the extermination of the Jews.

This was followed by a scrutiny of the conditions that spawned Nazism and an examination of Nazi ideology and Hitler's anti-Jewish policies. By the 1970s, she observes, research focused on the German army's criminal complicity in implementing the regime's policies. Not until 1983, she claims, did German historians specifically explore the Final Solution.

In dealing with Austria, which was annexed by Nazi Germany, Miller asks if it was really the self-proclaimed "first victim" of Nazism or rather a willing accomplice.

The answer is apparent. Quoting Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal, Miller says that little Austria supplied nearly 75 per cent of the staff of concentration camps and about 80 per cent of Adolf Eichmann's entourage. Eichmann, it will be recalled, organized and set into motion the transportation of Hungarian Jewry to Auschwitz. As well, she reminds us, Austria had a higher percentage of Nazi party members than Germany.

Lest the Austrians forget, Austria's de-Nazification program was "problematical," and in contrast to Germany, Austria's elite connived to rewrite history and to co-opt former Nazis. If Miller is rather harsh with Austria's propensity to dissemble, she is similarly tough on Holland, whose "unofficial patron saint" is Anne Frank.

"Thanks to (Holland's) careful cultivation of the memory of Anne Frank... Holland has achieved in the West a near universal reputation for moral steadfastness, political courage and resistance that can only be envied by Austrians and others," she observes.

In fact, she argues quite persuasively, Anne Frank's sanctification is "convenient and self-serving." It is true that Dutch individuals saved Jews and that resistance to the Nazis was consistently fervent. "Yet Holland's record during the war is in many other respects appalling," Miller claims.

The facts, as presented by Miller, are disheartening. Holland's prewar fascist party, the NSB, was one of the largest in Europe. More than 30,000 Dutchmen served as volunteers in the Wehrmacht. Dutch concentration camps were run by the Dutch SS, not by Germans. The Dutch-Jewish death rate was the highest in Western Europe, with almost nine out of 10 Jews having been murdered during the Holocaust.

France, too, has a blemished record.

Without German prodding, Vichy France set up a concentration camp system, enacted anti-Jewish racial laws and rounded up Jewish men, women and children.

Postwar efforts to "purify" France of collaborators were often random and ultimately incomplete, she adds. And trials and purges of undesirables "enhanced France's desire to repress" the Vichy era.

Although more than 700,000 Soviet Jews were killed in the war, the Soviet Union does not recognize the Holocaust as a unique, historically distinct event. Nor does it teach its people about it in any detail. What is more, the Russian language has no accepted term for genocide against the Jews.

According to Miller, the Soviet version of the Second World War barely mentions the Holocaust.

Glasnost, however, has prompted Moscow to reassess its seemingly rigid view of the Holocaust. American researchers, for example, have gained access, for the first time, to Soviet archives relating to the Holocaust.

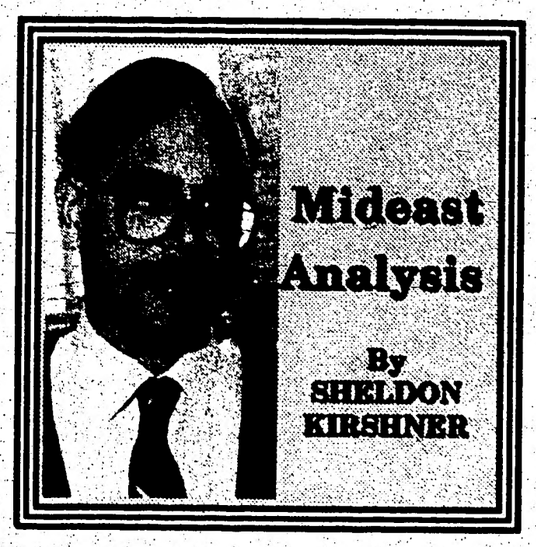
Miller's analysis of how the Holocaust is perceived in the United States, the country with the world's largest Jewish population, is instructive.

She pointedly wonders whether the proliferation of Holocaust museums, and particularly the construction of a U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, is the best way to preserve this tragic event. "Yes, the genocide in Europe has relevance for all Americans, but aren't too many Jews... already obsessed with the Holocaust?"

Furthermore, she fears that cynical, politically-oriented Jews have utilized the Holocaust as "a blunt, aggressive weapon" to secure unquestioned support for Israel. As an example, she cites Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles, who has "used" the Holocaust "to promote hard-line men and principles, in Israel and the United States." What is worse, the Holocaust has become commercialized as the Shoah business. And its centrality for American Jews, she quotes critic Leon Wieseltier as saying, "amounts virtually to a cult of death."

In a parting shot, Miller takes issue with the American penchant for calling the victims of the Holocaust "martyrs." Martyrs, she writes, are those who chose to die for their beliefs. Most of the victims had no choice. "The use of the term 'martyr' may be well intentioned, since it attempts to add some posthumous grandeur to the slaughter. But it distorts as it tries to give a meaning to the inexplicable."

In her book One By One By One, Judith Miller argues that Holland's sanctification of its "unofficial patron saint," Anne Frank (above), is "convenient and self-serving."



Mideast Analysis

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

The Middle East remains a dumping ground for the merchants of death.

A new study prepared by the Congressional Research Service in the United States says that the five permanent members of the United Nations' Security Council — United States, Soviet Union, France, Britain and China — have supplied about $163 billion (U.S.) worth of weapons to Middle East nations over a period of 14 years ending in 1990.

Iraq, which imported $52 billion in weaponry, was the chief spender, followed by Saudi Arabia ($34 billion). High up on the list were Syria, Israel, Egypt and Libya.

The two leading arms exporting nations are the Soviet Union ($74 billion) and the United States ($44 billion).

The Middle East is a profitable market largely because of the Arab-Israeli conflict, inter-Arab strife and the 1980-1988 Iraq-Iran War. There have been six Arab-Israeli wars and numerous skirmishes. Despite the rhetoric of Arab brotherhood, Arab leaders have crossed swords, Iraq's invasion of Kuwait having been the latest example of intramural Arab rivalry. Iran and Iraq are now formally at peace, but they still mistrust each other.

The Persian Gulf crisis has had the effect of whetting the region's appetite for more arms, particularly sophisticated U.S. weaponry.

More than 40 countries, several in the Mideast, are clamoring to buy U.S. radar-evading "stealth" technology.

Last October, when the United States was girding for war in the Persian Gulf, the Bush administration pushed through a $7 billion arms package for Saudi Arabia consisting of Apache attack helicopters, Bradley armored vehicles, multiple rocket launchers and M1-A2 tanks.

Lucrative arms trade

Pro-Israeli circles on Capitol Hill vowed to fight the second part of the proposed deal, which is valued at $13 billion and includes F-15 fighters, advanced reconnaissance planes and M1-A2 tanks. Shortly afterward, President George Bush postponed consideration of the $13 billion transaction, thereby avoiding a potentially bruising congressional battle. Israeli opposition notwithstanding, there were reports that Saudi Arabia was experiencing cash flow problems for the first time in memory, the result of vast expenditures during the Gulf War.

In March, however, Bush did a volte face, informing Congress of his desire to provide the Persian Gulf Arab states, including Saudi Arabia, with $18 billion worth of military equipment. Bush's secretary of defence, Dick Cheney, said that the United States would not limit the sale of conventional weapons to these states if their security was in doubt.

What's more, the Bush administration has asked the Export-Import Bank — a U.S. government agency — to underwrite arms sales to countries short of funds.

Egypt, Washington's primary Arab ally west of the Suez Canal, may well have to turn to the Export-Import Bank. The United States is selling Egypt F-16 jets valued at $1.6 billion. Although the United States has forgiven Egypt's $7 billion military debt, Egypt is still coping with severe economic problems.

As for Israel, the United States is committed to maintaining its "qualitative edge" over its Arab enemies. Apart from its promise to upgrade Israel's air defence system, which could not cope with Iraqi Scud attacks, the United States is making available $700 million worth of surplus military stock to the Israelis and stockpiling arms in Israel.

The United States, as Bush indicated last week, is interested in eliminating all weapons of mass destruction from the Middle East — nuclear devices, chemical weapons and ballistic missiles with a range exceeding about 150 kilometres. But there is no evidence as yet that Washington is trying to put a cap on the dissemination of conventional arms to the region.

The Soviet Union claims to have an interest in squelching the Middle East arms race. But according to recent reports, Moscow plans to ship — or has already shipped — a new batch of Soviet MIG-29s, Sukhoi-24s, surface-to-surface missiles and T-72 tanks to Syria.

Aliya restores pride in Israel

By
NECHEMIA MEYERS

I had to pull my car over to the side of the road when I tuned into the news broadcast about Operation Solomon, for it left me choked with emotion, on the verge of tears. Only a few moments later, when I had regained my composure, did I continue my journey.

That reaction was not unusual; indeed, it was typical of most people here. In ordinary circumstances, they are full of complaints about everything from the economic situation and government incompetence to the boorishness of their fellow citizens. But an event like Operation Solomon suddenly restores their pride in being Israelis. On such occasions it becomes crystal clear to them: only Israel really cares what happens to Jews; only Israel will take risks to save Jews when they are in mortal danger.

In recent days I have frequently heard speculation about what might have happened to European Jewry had the Jewish state been established several decades earlier, if there had been an El Al and an Israeli Air Force to fly into Warsaw in August 1939.

What is important now, of course, in not to speculate about what might have been, but to seek a solution to the problems that remain after the flights from Addis Ababa. The experience of recent years indicates that where absorption is concerned, the older Ethiopians are a lost cause; most of them are from sleepy 12th century villages and are unable to adjust successfully to the pace and lifestyle of bustling 20th century urban centres. Younger Ethiopians, however, are a different story. They almost always secure their place in society, thanks in significant measure to their positive experiences in the Israel Defence Forces, where they are already making their mark, particularly in the paratroopers.

As a matter of fact, one of the most heartwarming aspects of Operation Solomon was the way that dozens of young Ethiopian paratroopers were on hand to lovingly receive their bewildered brethren when the latter stepped off the planes that brought them to Ben-Gurion Airport.

Also welcoming the newcomers was our first Ethiopian Cinderella, a beautiful young women wh has become a media favorite after her recent marriage to the son of former Police Minister and Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel.

The ugly religious controversies over the Jewishness of the Ethiopian immigrants — which seriously impeded their integration some years ago — have, fortunately, almost completely disappeared. Where the Chief Rabbinate is concerned, they are Jews in every respect. Only ultra-Orthodox rabbis go on terming them "Falashas," which is the Amharic word for "strangers" and is roughly equivalent to calling American Jews "kikes."

To be sure, where genetics are concerned, there is some question about the "Jewish credentials" of the Ethiopian Jews. According to chromosomal studies carried out in recent years, they have a different gene pool than Jews from other countries. This indicates that they are probably the offspring of converts to Judaism, not — as legend has it — of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.

Be that as it may, their devotion to Judaism, despite untold centuries of isolation and oppression, is beyond question.

Now the central problem is finding jobs and homes for them and, in fact, for all immigrants. This will require patient, long-term efforts, which Israelis and their leaders find far more difficult than short, spectacular rescue operations.

Patronage appointments criticized

Comptroller hits establishment

JERUSALEM (JTA) — State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat, Israel's fiscal watchdog, has released yet another series of exposes not calculated to endear her to the political and diplomatic establishments.

But the former member of the High Court of Justice seems unfazed.

"They vowed I would never run the country," she said, referring to her critics. "But I don't want to run the country. I just want to help it reconsider before it is too late," Ben-Porat told a news conference on the release of her latest report.

Her annual report covers a wide range of subjects. Three that have attracted substantial attention are criticism of the Housing Ministry's failure to meet the country's growing housing needs; charges of continuing political patronage appointments after they had been ruled out; and the alleged inefficient operation of the Israeli Embassy in Paris.

The Housing Ministry, according to Ben-Porat, signed a contract with one company, without competitive bidding, to build 20,000 housing units at an estimated cost of $860 million.

The report also accuses the ministry of buying 5,000 mobile homes with a 10-year life expectancy for $134 million when, for the same price, it could have purchased 4,000 prefabricated homes of the same size, built to last 50 years.

The Knesset passed a law a year ago banning political appointments by government ministries.

But according to Ben-Porat, some ministers circumvent it by hiring "professional" advisers on a contract basis. Interior Minister Arye Deri, for example, has employed seven advisers, all political appointees, since 1989.

Although the law bans senior civil servants from participating in their parties' internal electoral bodies, 47 officials continue to do so despite repeated warnings, Ben-Porat charges.

The comptroller describes the embassy in Paris as the most expensive and least efficient in Israel's foreign service.

There is hardly any communication between the embassy and the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, the report said.

The embassy submitted few reports to the ministry, nor did the ambassador or the charge d'affairs pass on information to the embassy staff.

A bombshell is expected next month when the comptroller publishes a report on the transfer of state funds to favored organizations.

Deri has been under police investigation for almost a year on suspicion of giving ministry funds to institutions affiliated with his Orthodox Shas party.

Trunks full of documents from Deri's office have been reportedly passed on to the comptroller's office.

Also among Ben-Porat's exposes is the fact that Israeli police place more wiretaps than those in other democratic countries. The report refers to both wiretaps placed illegally and the fact that Israeli courts allow more taps than other democracies.

Nathan ends 40-day hunger strike

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Wan and haggard after 40 days without food, peace activist Abie Nathan called off his hunger strike last week "out of respect" for President Chaim Herzog and because he believes he has made his point.

He was invited to the presidential residence, where Herzog appealed to him for 10 minutes to stop endangering his life.

Nathan, who recently marked his 64th birthday, lost nearly 50 pounds during his self-imposed ordeal.

He had subsisted since April on eight pints of water a day with some fruit juice. He had been confined to bed in recent days, almost too weak to move.

Nathan's campaign, on which he spent some $86,000, was aimed at repealing the law that forbids Israelis from having contact with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Although efforts in that direction by his small bloc of supporters in the Knesset predictably failed, Nathan, his voice hoarse, claimed his fast had made the public aware of the "stupidity" of the law.

But his argument that Israel must talk to its enemies if it is to make peace with them has failed to change official policy.

Nathan served four months in jail last year for meeting with PLO chief Yasser Arafat in Tunis, and faces another jail sentence for another Arafat meeting.

Nathan was in fact indicted last month, in the middle of his fast. His trial is scheduled for September.

He ended his fast by accepting a bowl of soup offered him by Herzog. He will return to solid food only gradually, under medical supervision.

Poland's president, Lech Walesa, unveils a plaque on the Avenue of the Righteous, the path leading to the Holocaust memorial, honoring Gentiles who, at the risk of their own lives, saved Jews from death at the hands of the Nazis.

Survivor moved by Walesa's visit

NEW YORK — For Yitzhak Arad, chairman of Yad Vashem, the encounter was a profoundly moving one.

The visitor to Israel's Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem was Lech Walesa, the president of Poland, leader of the country where three million Jews had perished during the Nazi era — many of them betrayed or killed by Poles.

Arad himself was just 13, living in Warsaw with his family, when the German army invaded Poland in 1939. The boy escaped over the border to Lithuania; his parents, who stayed beyond in Warsaw, died later in Treblinka.

Now he was conducting Walesa and his wife on a tour of the memorial. On the Avenue of the Righteous, the path leading to the memorial, the president of Poland had unveiled a plaque listing the names of Gentiles who saved Jews from death at the hands of the Nazis.

Now, inside the memorial, the group paused before photographs of children aboard transports to the extermination camps, the gas chambers and the crematoria, photographs of Jewish forced labor, photographs of the "scientific" medical experiments performed by Nazi doctors on camp inmates.

The party lingered at a section of the memorial devoted to Jewish armed resistance. The hall is entered through a tunnel symbolizing the sewers that served as hiding places and escape routes for Jewish fighters in the Warsaw Ghetto.

In the Hall of Remembrance, an eternal flame flickered fitfully. In front of it lies the vault holding the ashes of martyrs, gathered and brought to Israel from the Nazi death camps.

All this Walesa saw. He wept as he read the names, etched in stone, of more than 1,400 Jewish communities across the face of Poland, once teeming with life, now gone, never to return. He wrote in the visitors' book: "Not to be understood."

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Israel

Israel will extradite West Bank couple to U.S.

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Cohen ordered the couple held in custody, pending the outcome.

The Mannings have also been linked to a still unsolved bomb murder of Arab-American activist Alex Odeh in California in 1985. But the charge sheet makes no mention of this crime.

Rochelle Manning was arrested at Los Angeles International Airport in June 1988, on suspicion of the July 1980 mailing of the booby-trapped parcel, which killed Patricia Wilkerson, a secretary at a California computer company.

According to the charge sheet, both Mannings sent the bomb to Wilkerson's employer, Brenda Krothmel, at the instigation of their friend, William Ross, who had a business dispute with Krothmel.

Wilkerson was apparently an unintended victim, who died after plugging in the mailed device according to accompanying instructions. No political motive was apparent in the crime.

A California court had acquitted Rochelle Manning and Ross. But U.S. authorities argue they have new evidence linking the couple to the murder, the fingerprints of both Mannings on the lethal package as well as on a letter attached to it.

Cohen stressed that his decision hinged on whether there was sufficient evidence to try the couple in Israel for the same offence. He decided there was.

Cohen said he probably would have denied extradition had it applied to only one of the Mannings. But as the U.S. authorities said they had identified the fingerprints of both on the fatal package, the possibility of coincidence was unlikely, he said.

Cohen and the Justice Ministry were under intense pressure from right-wing militants in Kiryat Arba and elsewhere in the West Bank to reject extradition.

The ministry reported it was flooded with telephone calls and letters urging Israel not to extradite the Mannings, because "you are sending Jews to the death chambers."

The judge rejected Robert Manning's claim that the extradition is a ruse to try him for the murder of Odeh, the regional director of the American-Arab anti-discrimination committee, who was killed when a bomb exploded in his Santa Ana, Calif., office on Oct. 11, 1985.

FBI officials had said at that time that the Manning couple and three other persons living in Israel were suspects.

When Cohen read his decision, Robert Manning shouted at the prosecutor, "This means the death sentence for me."

The Manning's 18-year-old daughter, Ilana, said her parents were good people and innocent. If they are extradited, she said she will remain in Israel with her 4-year-old sister, Moria, to fight the ruling.

War crimes counts may be dropped

By
PAUL LUNGEN

OTTAWA —

Justice department lawyers have asked for a stay of proceedings involving four of eight murder counts faced by accused war criminal Michael Pawlawski.

Citing the death of a key witness in the Soviet Union, the Crown made the request at the beginning of a week-long hearing to determine whether it may travel to that East European country to record the testimony of witnesses in the Pawlawski case.

The counts involve allegations that Pawlawski participated in the murder in 1942 of 80 Poles and eight Jews. Remaining counts allege the Renfrew resident murdered approximately 400 Jews in the Byelorussian area of the Soviet Union, said Ian Kagedan, director of government relations for B'nai Brith Canada, who is monitoring the case.

Pope John Paul II

Pope assails anti-Semitism

WARSAW —
[CJN News Services]

Less than one year after the Vatican declared anti-Semitism a sin, Pope John Paul last Sunday called on his Polish countrymen here to fight "lingering prejudices" against Jews.

The pontiff said Jews in Poland were exposed during the Holocaust to a "genocide inconceivable in its severity," adding that the Catholic church had actively participated in "rooting out all unjust prejudices toward the Jews, as well as any manifestations of anti-Semitism."

The time has come, he said, for all churches to "overcome the damaging stereotypes, established patterns and prejudices still lingering here and there."

The Pope's remarks came on the heels of some controversial statements he made during his nine-day visit to his birthplace. In one speech, John Paul angrily reprimanded Poles for their high abortion rate and he made broad comparisons between that and the Holocaust.

Angry Jewish leaders demanded an explanation.

In a meeting with the Pope, Michael Friedman, a representative of Warsaw's small Jewish community, emphasized the contributions of Jews to Polish life and to its defence over the centuries.

Holocaust/abortion comparison blasted

NEW YORK (JTA) —

When Polish Jewish leaders met in Warsaw on Sunday with Pope John Paul II, they complained about his comparison of abortion to the Holocaust in comments he made last week during an earlier stop on his nine-day tour of Poland.

His comparison prompted an uproar in Jewish communities worldwide.

The delegation of six Polish Jews also urged the pontiff to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, something which the Vatican has refused to do.

The pope told the Jewish leaders that the Middle East situation does not yet permit such ties.

"We told him that we considered his remarks putting abortion and the Holocaust on the same plane were unfortunate," a member of the Jewish delegation, Konstanty Gebert, told reporters in Warsaw.

He said that the pope offered no response.

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Sentenced in Damascus

Brothers begin hunger strike

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

The Jewish brothers Eli and Selim Swed, who were sentenced in Damascus on May 21 to 6½ years in jail [CJN, May 30], are on a hunger strike, The CJN has learned.

Joining the brothers in their life-threatening protest are Selim Swed's wife and their seven children.

According to Judy Feld Carr, chairman of Canadian Jewish Congress's National Task Force for Syrian Jews, the Sweds began their fast May 22, a day after receiving their sentence on undisclosed charges at an in camera tribunal.

The Sweds had already spent 3½ years in prison awaiting their fate. They were never formally charged and both were likely tortured, Carr told The CJN.

"We don't know how they or the children are doing," said Carr, who received word of the hunger strike directly from a source in Damascus. "They say they are all prepared to die."

Selim Swed's children range in age from seven to 23, Carr said.

In the meantime, Eli, a 30-year-old bachelor and Selim, 49, are in the notorious Adra prison in Damascus, a facility well known for its underground torture chambers and dungeons of horror.

After their sentencing, at which the brothers' lawyer was not allowed to offer a defence, Syrian President Hafez Assad offered a 15-day period during which pleas for clemency were heard.

Canada made representation to the Syrians during that period, according to Ian Sadinsky, an advisor to External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall.

Canada's Embassy in Damascus asked for a reconsideration of the sentence on humanitarian grounds and that "clemency be exercised," Sadinsky said.

Sadinsky said he didn't know how Canada's pleas were received by Assad.

The brothers' family also pleaded for clemency, he added.

Apart from the obvious dangers of a hunger strike and how the Syrians will react to it, the Sweds have little if any chance of surviving a brutal Syrian prison, Carr said. "No one comes out alive after 6½ years."

In the meantime, Amnesty International is working on the case.

The organization has initiated its fifth so-called urgent action on the matter, meaning the Syrians can expect another flood of letters protesting the brothers' fate.

More important, perhaps, is that Amnesty has contacted its key European co-ordinators, including those in Britain, France and Germany, who in turn are protesting directly to Syrian envoys.

Michael Schelew, a former head of Amnesty's Canadian section, told The CJN the Sweds' case is a delicate balancing act.

"We don't want to do anything that could endanger the family. There's little doubt the brothers will be tortured but how do we raise that if we don't know for certain?"

Schelew said he knows of two other cases involving hunger strikes in Syria. In both, the prisoners were eventually let go, but there is no evidence to show their release was brought about by the protest, he said.

Under international rules, nations are not obliged to force-feed prisoners who hunger-strike, he explained.

On May 31, Tory MP Bill Attewell raised the Sweds' plight in the House of Commons.

Attewell termed the brothers' treatment "bizarre and inhumane" and he called on Ottawa to intercede on their behalf during the clemency period.

MP makes plea for Jews in Syria

OTTAWA —

Bill Attewell, MP (Markham Whitchurch-Stouffville), told the House of Commons that the 4,500 Jews living in Syria are being denied basic human rights.

"Jews are forbidden to leave Syria, they are being tortured and jailed, they are not allowed to vote, and their homes fall victim to random, unwarranted searches," Attewell explained.

Attewell said that "there is an urgent call to action against the Syrian government."

He urged other members of Parliament to call on the Syrian government to comply with the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, which Syria has signed, and allow Syrian Jews the opportunity to flee their oppression in Syria.

"I, along with members of this House, call on the government of Syria to comply with the UN declaration and allow those Syrian Jews who wish to emigrate, the right to do so freely."

Bill Attewell

The following is the complete text of Attewell's remarks in the House on May 21.

Mr. Speaker, I recently met with members of the Jewish students' group Nahon. These students are among many who are very concerned about the oppression of some 4,500 Syrian Jews.

There is an urgent call for action against the Syrian government.

Jews are forbidden to leave Syria, they are being tortured and jailed, they are not allowed to vote, and their homes fall victim to random, unwarranted searches.

The Jews of Syria are being denied basic rights that are set out in the United Nations declaration of human rights, which Syria has signed.

The government of Canada has always supported the cause of oppressed Jewry and human rights. Today, I, along with members of this House, call on the government of Syria to comply with the UN declaration and allow those Syrian Jews, who wish to emigrate, the right to do so freely.

Change sought at Auschwitz Museum

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

The resignation of the Polish chairman of an Advisory Commission on the Auschwitz Museum, and his replacement by a Jew, is being demanded by a Canadian member of the Commission.

A meeting of the Commission in May was cancelled without explanation and the chairman has failed to reply to repeated letters, Sigmund Sobolewski of Edmonton told The CJN recently.

The Commission has failed to set up a bus connection between Auschwitz and Birkenau four kilometres away where most of the Jews were executed or to carry out other recommendations of a special committee of Jewish intellectuals, he said.

A cast-iron memorial plaque to the 452 Jewish prisoners who rebelled against their Nazi masters at Birkenau and were shot was placed near crematorium No. 4 by a Canadian group in June but it has been removed and is now stored in the Museum basement, Sobolewski said.

Prof. Vladeslaw Bartoszewski, Polish ambassador to Vienna, is the Commission chairman whose resignation is being demanded. He is also a member of a Commission set up by President Lech Walesa to advise him on relations with Jews. His dual appointment has raised questions of a conflict of interest.

"Are they using us (members of the Commission) as a smokescreen?" asked Sobolewski. "Is it all just a hoax? So far there is only a lot of hot air. There is nothing happening."

He said the new chairman should be a Jew and a non-Pole because the Advisory Commission is an international body.

The committee recommendations which have not been implemented include making the Museum reflect that the vast majority of the victims were Jews, that kosher eating facilities be provided, and that more educational materials be provided explaining how the Nazis carried out the Holocaust.

Sobolewski said Canadians, Jews and non-Jews, have made three trips to Poland to ask for changes in running the Museum, so far without result.

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Soviet Jewry

MUSCLE DOCTOR

Igor Dovikin, an immigrant doctor from the Soviet Union who made aliya eight months ago, won the title Mr. South at a body building competition in Eilat last month. Dovikin, 34, lives in Kyriat Gat and will soon be able to participate in the national championships. [IPPA photo]

More Soviet Jews expected in June

Immigration stays constant

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A total of 16,048 Soviet Jews immigrated to Israel in May, about the same as the previous month.

But immigration officials here expect the number to swell considerably this month, as Jews rush to get out of the Soviet Union before new emigration regulations go into effect.

Soviet Jewish immigration to the United States also remained relatively constant, totaling 2,373 in May, compared to 2,171 in April, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society reported in New York.

The U.S. government would help pay for up to 40,000 Soviet Jews to come to the United States as refugees this fiscal year. But in the first eight months, only 13,474 have made it.

By contrast, the May figures bring Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel for the first five months of 1991 to 66,194, according to figures compiled by the Soviet Jewry Research Bureau of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

But the immigration scene in Israel was dominated last month by the arrival of more than 14,000 Ethiopian Jews in the Operation Solomon airlift May 24 and 25.

Those arrivals brought aliya for the month to 31,774 new immigrants, according to the Jewish Agency for Israel.

There are about 200 Ethiopian Jews in Addis Ababa who were not able to get on the airlift, and an estimated 2,000 Jews still in the northwestern province of Gondar.

A public debate has started here about whether to arrange for the aliya of Ethiopian Jews who converted to Christianity over the years and who now want to return to the fold. Their numbers may range from several thousand to several tens of thousands.

Unofficial estimates here say that 200,000 Soviet Jews are still expected to arrive this year, which is half of the figure projected at the beginning of the year. The drop is due to the Persian Gulf War and growing concern among prospective immigrants about the job and housing shortage in Israel.

80,000 hold visas

About 80,000 Soviet Jews now hold visas for Israel but have delayed their departure because of problems anticipated in absorption.

Government officials here expect a considerable number of these people to make aliya this month because of the changes recently made in Soviet emigration regulations, some of which will go into effect July 1.

As of that date, Soviet emigres will be issued passports and will not be forced to give up their citizenship when they leave. Emigrants also will be allowed to hold property in the Soviet Union.

Some people holding Israeli visas are expected to leave this month because of the delays and bureaucratic problems anticipated as the Soviet visa agency, OVIR, gears up for the change.

After July 1, officials here foresee a period of confusion and uncertainty, as Soviet Jews learn how the new regulations affect emigrants headed for Israel.

Yad L'Achim helps Soviets

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — It took the outpouring of Jews from the Soviet Union to finally bring into the limelight one of the Canadian Jewish community's better-kept secrets.

Begun in 1974, the Canadian Friends of Yad L'Achim raises money and awareness for the parent organization in Israel, which attempts to imbue new arrivals from the Soviet Union with a basic Jewish education almost as soon as they touch Israeli soil.

"We've kept a pretty low profile," says Bill Grossberg, the Friends' director since last January and the only fulltime employee. "But the emigration of these thousands of Jews means we're busy now."

Yad L'Achim (literally, hand to your brothers) was established in Israel in 1970.

The hundreds of thousands of Jews now pouring into Israel pose a special challenge for the organization, Grossberg says.

Often, Soviet Jews have little if any affinity with Judaism, since their homeland strongly discouraged religious practice, not to mention having made life especially difficult for Jews, he points out.

But Grossberg and Yad L'Achim are especially wary of a new and worrisome trend in Israel and around the world: the growing messianic movement, which is targeting immigrant Soviets for conversion to what is essentially evangelical Christianity.

Messianic Jews, Grossberg explains, are having some success in convincing Soviet emigres that one can be Jewish and accept Jesus Christ as the Jewish messiah.

A year ago, Yad L'Achim began its "Roots" program, in which Soviet families with no grounding in Judaism are brought to a Jerusalem hotel for a weekend of seminars in basic Jewish history, culture and holidays.

Religion is downplayed initially so as not to turn off the immigrants, Grossberg explains.

A $180 donation here pays for one family's weekend introduction to Judaism, he adds.

The organization also offers a Torah outreach program, similar to that of Aish Ha'Torah, for immigrants who want more advanced learning.

Overseas, including in Canada, Yad L'Achim is working on a program that would take immigrant Soviet teenagers to Israel for a few months.

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Rabbinical Reflections

By
RABBI SHELDON STEINBERG

The prophet Samuel promised his people (1:Samuel:12:22) "For the sake of His great name, The Lord will never abandon His people, seeing that it pleases the Lord to make you His people."

The nation had demanded a monarchy with Saul as its king. It had persisted, notwithstanding the arguments of Samuel. It was the time for harvesting wheat. In accordance with Samuel's words, lightning and thunder, rare at this time of year, had brought a recognition that an error, a sin, was committed in the demand for a kingdom, a monarch. Nevertheless the request is granted by God, although this method of government is intensely disfavored by the Divine messenger, Samuel. The promise quoted above is among the final words in the conversation between Samuel, the judge about to retire from ruling, and his people.

In the country of Israel, the people may be divided, even disrespectful of the prophet but this is no reason to threaten their survival. They may be warned, chastised, even punished, but while on their land they will never be destroyed, never feel forsaken by God as a people. On the contrary, God's presence will be felt in their history. It will be almost visible in events; it can be clearly understood by the people.

How true this seems in these days. This year has witnessed the great immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel, the Gulf War and Israel's escape from severe loss of life under Scud attacks and most recently the miraculous rescue of Ethiopian Jewry. The land, the State of Israel, is one of the pillars of Jewish life. It unites all Jews, even those who deny its religious or historical quality. It cares for all Jews, risking everything on their behalf. Its people are ready in its finest moments to sacrifice material well-being, even lives, in order to save Jews helpless by themselves. It is prepared to share whatever meagre resources it has with the returning children of Zion from different continents and cultures. No wonder the sensitivity of the Lubavitcher Rebbe enabled him to call this year "A year of miracles" in advance.

The people of Israel in Moses' day, not yet in the land but at its borders, followed the spies who spurned it (and according to the Midrash, its Maker) and died in the desert. They swallowed the demagoguery of Korach but were consoled by the renewed promise of the land, by leading the laws pertinent to the Holy Land which they would someday inherit.

The land of Israel in our history has given us a place to focus hope, to affirm our being, to bring Heaven to this world. While we are there we are not forsaken, we are not seen to be abandoned by God, in our own eyes, or in the views of our friends, or in the experiences of our foes.

This is different than the exile. A scant 50 years ago, before the state, Jews were not considered as they are today. Then in the view of Rabbi J. B. Soloveitchick, we experienced God's absence as it were, the turning away of His presence, so to speak. To our friends we were abandoned, to our foes we were doomed, forsaken. Today, this is not the case.

Look at the contrast between the pictures taken by Jost in his visit to the Warsaw ghetto 50 years ago and those of the new olim from Ethiopia, and those so delighted to receive them in Israel.

No, the Eternal of Israel does not lie! We are not abandoned, the country, state, people of Israel are not forsaken by the Lord.

Rabbi Sheldon Steinberg is the director of chaplaincy services at the Jewish Family and Child Services of Greater Toronto.

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"Hidden children" share past

By
GERRY MORRIS

NEW YORK — In an emotionally laden experience, 1,600 survivors recently gathered at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York for The First International Gathering of "Hidden Children" — Jewish children torn from their homes and loved ones to escape annihilation by the Nazis in the Second World War.

These children, now in their 50s and 60s, lived out the war years in darkness, hunger and cold in haylofts, sewers, convents, monasteries, or like Anne Frank, the most famous of the "hidden children," in attics and secret rooms. Traumatized to this day, many survivors still harbor fears of being found out.

Notwithstanding, each one attests to the fact that there were righteous Gentiles willing to risk their lives to save them. "The great untold story of the Holocaust is that so many Gentiles hid Jews," said Gary Mokotoff, president of the Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies and a student of the Holocaust.

"Less than one per cent of the Gentile population hid Jews — but that was thousands," he said. It is estimated there were as many as 100,000 hidden children, several thousand of which never returned to Judaism.

Nearly half a century later they gathered, from Europe, Australia and Israel, emerging from history's shadows to resurrect their anguish. Why rekindle those memories now?

Rochel Berger, co-ordinator of public relations for the gathering, answered explicitly: "The hidden children all heard the same story. People who survived the concentration camps would say to them: 'What do you know? You were never in camps or ghettos.' So they kept quiet. They kept their special suffering to themselves."

"Those long suppressed memories are a place of pain," said Anne Shore, a conference organizer who was a hidden child in Poland. "There is such a tremendous need for people to speak. They have simply not talked, unable to verbalize the past — including myself. Once the children open up their hearts, they cannot go back. I can't tell you what a healing thing it is to talk about this so openly. There is such a feeling of euphoria and family among us."

"The primary purpose of this conference is to bring together the last witnesses to the Holocaust and to share and master our memories," said Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

"For years we were silent. We were ashamed because of our false identifications and our conversions. We felt guilty without knowing why. Many of us changed our names, our religions to survive. The monstrous past had robbed us of our childhoods. We were old before we were young. Now we are ready to confront those emotions, to share with each other that we are no longer alone." (Foxman was a hidden child in Vilna, Lithuania, baptized by a Catholic nanny.)

In addition, "this is an opportunity to say publicly 'thank you.' Thank you to those courageous people who saved our lives (over 100 of whom, now elderly and poor, were brought to the conference by the Jewish Foundation of Christian Rescuers).

"But we know that evil is much greater than the good that surfaces." A mere 11 per cent of European Jewish children alive in 1939 survived the war. One-and-a-half million children perished.

These hidden children, the youngest survivors of the Holocaust, told of a lifetime of recovery from a childhoood haunted by memories too terrible to talk about and yet too deep to share. In most cases only now were they able to deal with the past, privately echoed and shared in workshops, most of which were open to survivors only.

Prof. Haim Dasberg, himself a hidden child in Holland, director of The Albert & Temmy Latner Institute for Research in Social Psychiatry & Psychotherapy in Jerusalem, chaired such a workshop, To Hide No More, an International Study of Hidden Children.

Clearly moved he said, "Being a psychiatrist I actually treated many child survivors successfully. There is hope. There is always hope. That is why I came to New York to help point the way — to belong."

He is currently in Toronto to meet with Dr. Stanley E. Greben, who holds the Albert & Temmy Latner Chair in Psychology at the University of Toronto, and is special adviser to the Latner Institute in Israel.

The story of the gathering began in 1989. Its founders were inspired by the 85-minute documentary *As If It Were Yesterday* by Myriam Abramowicz, the Brussels-born New Yorker, and Esther Hoffenberg.

The film documents how 4,000 Jewish children in Belgium were saved from death by brave countrymen, and how they come face to face decades later as adults.

Abraham Foxman, a hidden child, now U.S. national director of the Anti-Defamation League, with his nanny and rescuer in Poland, 1943.

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VISA

Organizations and People

NDP provides for a common pause day

Sunday exception maintained in new shopping bill

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

Ontario's proposed new legislation restricting Sunday shopping does not change the Jewish community's concerns on the matter, says Canadian Jewish Congress's Ontario region.

The proposed law would provide a common pause day and protect those who don't want to work Sunday, provisions to which CJC has never objected.

Manuel Prutschi

The legislation, introduced by Ontario Solicitor-General Mike Farnan last week, would allow businesses to open Sunday if they qualify as tourism-based. To do that, they would have to meet at least two of six criteria.

But the proposed changes to the Retail Business Holidays Act do not extend to the so-called Sunday exception, devised for those who do not observe Sunday as the Sabbath.

The legislation's good point is that it will still allow Shabbat-observant retailers to open Sundays, regardless of store size or number of employees, says CJC's Manuel Prutschi.

But the law's bad points are the same as before the proposed changes: It will prevent observant consumers from shopping on Sundays — effectively eliminating weekend shopping altogether — and it will still require businesses to publicly declare a religion in order to take advantage of the Sunday exception.

The Sunday exception allows businesses to open Sunday, provided they are closed to the public on another day of the week by reason of the proprietor's religion.

But in order to take advantage of the provision, retailers must register their faith with the government.

Congress has always found that provision unpalatable and discriminatory because it singles people out by religion, Prutschi said. CJC also feels it is "abhorrent" for the state to inquire about religion.

"The rights of Shabbat-observant retailers to remain open Sundays is protected," Prutschi said. "On the other hand, the shopping option for Shabbat-observant consumers remains narrower than for the general population.

"And it's less likely that a retailer who is interested in serving a Shabbat-observant clientele will be able to open Sundays, unless he qualifies for the tourist exemption."

That means a store owned by a non-observant retailer but situated in a predominantly Jewish neighborhood will likely not be allowed to open Sundays.

Last year, Congress told the Ontario Supreme Court, which struck down the law because it violated religious freedoms, that Jews and others who have a pause day other than Sunday are placed at a disadvantage and are consequently penalized.

CJC said Saturday is the most popular shopping day, and for Shabbat observers, especially families with children, single parents or two working parents, the inability to shop on Saturdays — compounded by a virtually closed Sunday — presents unique difficulties.

Three prominent Torontos rabbis to rabbis told the court that the law's religious exemptions reduce Jews to second-class citizens.

The court ruled the law unconstitutional because it violated the religious freedoms of customers and retailers who observe Sabbath on a day other than Sunday.

But last March, Ontario's Court of Appeal reversed the ruling and upheld the law.

Ontario increases battle against sexual assault

TORONTO —

Declaring June to be Sexual Assault Prevention Month, Anne Swarbrick, Ontario minister responsible for women's issues, said it is crucial for more people to understand that sexual assault is a violent and widespread crime.

"Sexual assault isn't about sex or sexual desire. It's about the inequality of men and women in our society, and the power and control men have over women's lives," said Swarbrick.

"At least one in four women will become victims of this violent crime in her lifetime." While sexual assault remains one of the most under-reported crimes, Statistics Canada figures released last week show the number of recorded sexual assaults has nearly doubled since 1984.

During Sexual Assault Prevention Month advertisements in English and French with the theme Against Our Will is Against the Law will run in community newspapers across the province.

Posters, brochures and fact sheets will be widely distributed to such places as doctors' offices, police detachments, rape crisis and sexual assault centres, district health councils, hospital sexual assault centres and emergency rooms and legal clinics.

Seventy-two women's and community organizations will receive grants of approximately $2,000 each for local public education projects on sexual assault.

"There are still so many misconceptions around sexual assault," said Swarbrick. "Too many people think it's the victim's fault, or believe it only happens late at night in dark alleys. Actually, most assaults take place in people's homes, and many women are assaulted by someone they know.

"There's also a belief that sexual assault always means rape. This is not so. In fact, sexual assault means any unwanted act of a sexual nature."

Public education and prevention are part of the Ontario government's on-going strategy against sexual assault, which also includes services to victims and justice measures. The Ontario Women's Directorate co-ordinates the government-wide strategy.

Last month the government announced $8.3 million for the strategy, bringing the 1991-92 total to $17 million. Besides strengthening services, funds will go to improving access to services for native women, women with disabilities, francophone women and immigrant and racial minority women.

For further information call Carol Zelniker, (416) 597-4593; Punam Khosla, (416) 597-4537; Rhoda Matlow, (416) 597-4518.

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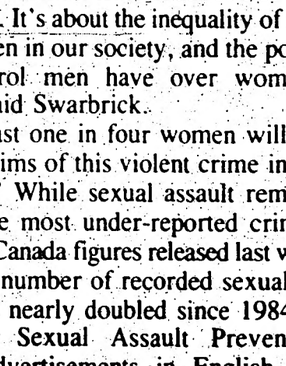

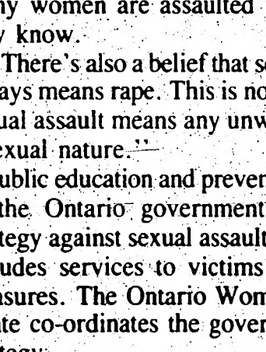

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Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary holds successful ball

By CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO — The Sheraton Centre's grand ballroom and foyer were virtually transformed into an exquisite English garden for the 37th annual Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary Gala Ball.

The $500 a person black-tie fund raiser reflected the extraordinary job done by Fran Binder, a vice-president of the Auxiliary, the co-chairs of the event, Jacquie Kolber and Renee Aceto and their 100-plus committee. The Gala Ball is the highlight of the Auxiliary's year of service, education and fund raising.

The incredibly effective floral decor, designed by Bruce Philpott's Statements in Flowers, with arbors, hanging vines and fountains, was an esthetic background for the display of items for a silent auction, a raffle draw, souvenir photos and other creative displays nestled amongst the blossoms.

Every detail was co-ordinated, from the cocktail reception with soft background music, to the decor in the ballroom, with chairs covered in white satin and decorated with large purple ribbons which gave the event a fantasy-world setting.

The Guido Basso Eclectic Sounds Orchestra was located in the centre of the ballroom with tables set around the perimeter of the room providing a large circular dance floor for the footloose and fancy-free.

Queenie Nayman, outgoing president of the Auxiliary, welcomed the more than 400 guests and noted that the $250,000 raised at the Gala — "despite the economic times" — brings the Auxiliary close to reaching the halfway mark of its pledge to raise $5 million to establish a world-class diagnostic imaging centre for the hospital.

Kolber, who thanked the committee members and those who helped make the Gala a success, surprised the guests when she introduced her co-chair Aceto, "a gifted career entertainer" who moved to Toronto 20 years ago.

Aceto, a graduate from the School of Performing Arts in Manhattan who also studied at the American Academy for Dramatic Arts has performed with Robert Goulet, Liza Minelli and Doris Day. The well-seasoned performer sang several nostalgic songs, including, *Its in His Kiss*, to the delight of the guests.

Comedian David Brenner drew chuckles from the guests.

A gourmet meal created by chef Richard Seto included charred carpaccio and fresh and smoked salmon in phyllo purses.

It was announced that the silent auction, which included clothing, lithographs, theatre tickets, jewelry, furs, vacations and many other items, drew great interest and raised more than $28,000. The Auxiliary magazine *Perspectives* raised $80,000 and the raffle raised $35,000. The prize for a trip to London, England was won by Maurice Tousson and the grand prize of an exquisite 18K gold and diamond necklace by Jewellery By Cynthia, was won by Metro chairman Alan Tonks and his wife.

The convenors of the committee were Barbara Bregman, Judi Ghert, Tobie Bekhor, Bonnie Gottlieb, Pedie Wolfond, Dolly Kerzner, Shanea Rakowski, Ricki Shields, Julia Paisley and Ruth Paislev

There was something for everyone at the Mount Sinai Gala. Everyone who attended knew that the funds raised by the Auxiliary would contribute greatly to the completion of the x-ray, CT scanning, ultrasound and nuclear imaging facitlity that will become a reality from this and other Auxiliary projects carried out throughout the year.

Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary raised $250,000 towards establishing a diagnostic imaging centre at its 1991 gala. From left are Renee Aceto, gala 1991 co-chairman Mount Sinai Hospital; Queenie Nayman, president, Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary; and Jacquie Kolber, 1991 co-chairman, Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary. [Carrie Cockburn photo]

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Organizations and People

Shofar blast opens UJA Walkathon to mark return of Ethiopian Jews

TORONTO —

With the blast of a shofar, the UJA Walkathon opened June 2 with a triumphal fanfare, celebrating the return of 15,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel after centuries of exile.

The feeling of elation was virtually tangible among the crowd who participated in the opening ceremonies. The stories of families being reunited after years of separation brought tears to most eyes.

The ceremony featured representatives of Amichai, the Ethiopian Educational Fund, who are meeting the challenge of the social and religious integration of these new immigrants.

Rabbi Steven Cohen, of Kehillat Shaarei Torah, worked closely with Ethiopian immigrants in Israel for several years following Operation Moses. His invocation at the opening of the Walkathon included a traditional Ethiopian blessing, thanking God for His protection of all flesh and blood.

"The miracle of this exodus is simply biblical in its significance," said Cohen, "but miracles take work. The UIA (The United Israel Appeal which covers the cost of absorbing the Ethiopians) and Amichai have a formidable task ahead of them. This challenge is as great as the bracha. Our community must mobilize its support immediately."

Upon arrival in Israel, the Ethiopians are first accosted with 20th century life, and then shocked by the vast difference of religious observance between them and most Israelis. The challenge of learning to use modern technology is soon bridged, but the social and religious integration is a major impediment to their absorption.

With Israeli social services already stretched to the breaking point, Amichai's trained volunteers and social workers reach out to the Ethiopians and accept them with warmth and respect. Every effort is made to protect their religious commitment while they are introduced to a new way of life.

Amichai's programs of leadership development train Ethiopians to serve their own community. The training relies heavily upon scholarships to sponsor promising, young leaders for tuition, which costs Amichai about $5,000 U.S. for each student.

Seminars and activities are also run in absorption centres and development towns across the country, giving guidance and offering an introduction to Israeli life for adults and children.

The Jewish Agency sees Amichai's role as vital to the successful integration of these new Israelis.

The dramatic arrival of such large numbers of Ethiopians in a short span of time has left Amichai scrambling to expand its activities. They are seeking to add three new regional co-ordinators to implement programs in 20 absorption centres across the country, serving thousands of new immigrants.

The monthly costs alone are expected to reach $10,000. As a result, Amichai is launching a major fund-raising initiative to support and expand their functions in Israel.

Walking with the Amichai representatives in the Walkathon, several Ethiopian Jews living in Toronto expressed their excitement over the arrival of their relatives in Israel. "There is no country in the world which loves its people and does so much for them like Israel."

ORT starts projects to aid Ethiopian olim

TORONTO —

Following the successful airlift of almost 15,000 Jews from Ethiopia, ORT Israel has launched special educational projects.

ORT Israel has started a major campaign at its schools involving 70,000 students and 6,500 staff who are assembling clothes and toys for the new arrivals, most of whom brought nothing with them and did not even own a pair of shoes. It has also engaged an Ethiopian ORT graduate for liaison with the new immigrants.

Numerous reports have come in about the generosity of ORT students and their families and the warm welcome being extended to these Ethiopian olim.

ORT's interest in the Jews of Ethiopia dates back to 1957, when President Ben-Zvi of Israel asked ORT to make a study of the vocational training programs for the Jews living in Ethiopia.

Ethiopian students attend class at one of the ORT programs set up for olim.

An ORT delegation visited the country and met with Emperor Haile Selassie, who granted royal permission for ORT to operate there. Subsequently, an Israeli agriculturalist was sent by World ORT Union to Gondar province to give vocational training to the Jews.

By 1977, ORT was carrying out a comprehensive rural development project in the Gondar province and implemented construction and training activities in the various areas.

Five thousand students from first to ninth grade attended the ORT schools in Ethiopia, and approximately 20,000 people, the majority of the Jewish population, benefited from ORT's activities. The program, in which ORT invested over $6 million, continued until events in Ethiopia forced it to a close in 1982.

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For reservations and further information please call Minnie Ross 787-0131

Women urged to define own place in the world

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO –

Women want to define their own place in the world, and not be restricted to roles and attitudes imposed upon them by a male dominated society, said Patricia Rucker, editor of The Canadian Jewish News.

Rucker was speaking to the closing luncheon of the B'nai Brith Women of Canada annual meeting, held recently at the Sheraton East hotel.

Recalling that when she was preparing to return to work "after earning my 'pht' degree (putting hubby through [school])" she saw herself, as men see women, as "wife of, mother of and car pool driver."

Part of this attitude on the part of men, she said, is that women are defined in terms of their physical characteristics; they have less brute strength (and thus can be physically intimidated); bear children, and thus need protection; and their sexuality, wherein they are seen as "wife or whore."

She noted the opinion of some years back, repeated recently by a judge in British Columbia, that "no means maybe, maybe means yes, and yes means she's no lady."

The result of this paternalistic and denigrating attitude, she said, can be seen in such developments as porno flics, women's shelters, prisons (where, she said, 90 per cent of the women inmates have been sexually abused), by organizations such as REAL women, who define women's roles only in terms of giving birth, and in current Orthodox circles, where the injunction against kol isha, a man listening to a woman's voice, either singly or in groups, has been becoming more and more of the the norm.

"We must fight, together, to have society recognize our physical vulnerability.

"We have the right to move about in safety. Wendo (a martial arts discipline for women) does not compensate for inadequate security in parking garages, or inadequate police protection."

Women must accept their biological function, she said, criticizing male employers who see female employees as "mothers who can't be depended on, or as ersatz men."

As well, said Rucker, women must respect each other's choices.

"We must recognize the worth of motherhood. Child care services and salaries are inadequate.

"Those who stay home are penalized by the tax and pension systems; those who divorce by an adversarial court system and antiquated support system.

"We must demand the support women need to raise physically and emotionally healthy children."

Patricia Rucker

This support, she said, must be expanded to include all women, she said, not just our own groups.

She decried the results of a recent survey of young women, which showed that the gap between what they felt their potential and their future would be increased sharply between the beginning and end of high school — exactly the same as 20 years ago.

Schools must reflect the abilities of girls to do maths and sciences, just as it must recognize the abilities of boys to take part in more "creative" disciplines.

Past spiritual definitions persist, she said.

She quoted the Jewish idea that "women, children and slaves are exempted from prayer."

Noting that the explanation in connection with women varies from seeing women as servants of the men in their family, or on a higher spiritual plane, she said that in any case "it walls us off from important rituals.

"How many of us engage in tefilla (prayer), have aliyot, or pray in a women's minyan?"

Women must cross artificial divisive borders, she said, between Orthodox and Reform, Jew and non-Jew, English and French, native and immigrant.

Also, she said, we must work with men. "There are lots of men out there who want to work with us."

She warned against falling into the "anything you can do I can do better" trap.

"We shouldn't have to. We don't need to."

As part of the closing ceremonies, charters were presented to two new chapters, Northern Lights, in Newmarket/Aurora area and Zeva, in Winnipeg.

Reproductive technology changes seen as raising Halachic problems

By
FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO –

Provocative questions were the order of the day when Rabbi Stephen Saltzman of Adath Israel Congregation spoke as part of a panel discussion on Ethical Issues in Reproductive Technology at the recent B'nai Brith Women of Canada convention.

Is it possible to commit adultery without physically touching a paramour? Artificial insemination by a donor other than the woman's husband opens that possibility, according to Rabbi Saltzman. In a situation where a husband donates sperm to be artificially inseminated into his wife, there is no Halachic problem at all.

New techniques in reproductive technology have raised other Halachic challenges. It is now possible for a woman to be pregnant with a fetus derived from an egg donated by another woman. If the donor is not Jewish, is the baby born Jewish because gestation occurred within a Jewish woman's womb, or is it not Jewish because the egg is from a non-Jewish woman? (By Halachic definition, a child is born Jewish if his or her mother is Jewish.)

Rabbi Saltzman contends that there is a "mikvah type of situation in the womb," which would render the baby Jewish. In traditional Judaism, he explained, ritual immersion in a mikvah is the most crucial aspect of conversion.

Prof. Bernard Dickens of the University of Toronto's faculty of law provided the secular legal perspective. "The interaction of ethics and the law is always contentious," he cautioned. He defined ethics as "what should be done," whereas the law states "what may be done (and sometimes what must or mustn't be done.)"

Funding of assisted reproduction is one ethical-legal issue. "What are the rights of the reproductively disabled?" Dickens asked. Currently Ontario is the only province which funds assisted reproduction, said Dickens, although it doesn't cover all the services which are necessary for some couples.

Surrogate motherhood, which drew so much public attention with the Baby M case in the United States, is another ticklish issue. Surrogate motherhood is not unlawful, said the professor, however it is not enforceable by law if the surrogate mother changes her mind and decides to keep the baby.

"All of the news we've had about surrogate motherhood has been bad news. The cases that work, we don't hear about," Dickens said after relating a happy anecdote that didn't make the newspaper.

Heather Pullen, mother of an adopted son and co-author of *Making Babies: A Complete Guide to Fertility and Infertility*, spoke on her experience as an infertility patient.

She indirectly raised some ethical issues when she described who infertility patients are:

"We are not spoiled yuppies who think we can and should have everything. We're not looking for designer babies. We are deeply committed to old-fashioned family values."

Nancy Bryceland, head nurse of Toronto General Hospital's reproductive biology unit, spoke about the medical aspect of IVF (in-vitro fertilization) and other techniques that exist to help women become pregnant.

WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY
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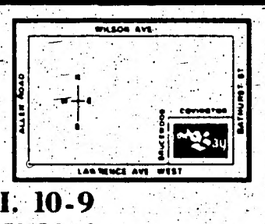

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Organizations and People

What's New

By
MIRIAM HERMAN

DEADLINE REMINDER

We will not be publishing the issues of July 4 and July 18, which means there will be some deadline changes for the What's New and About People columns. Please note the following deadline dates—

Thursday, June 13, is deadline for the June 27 issue and must also include material that would ordinarily appear in the July 4 issue.

Thursday, June 20, is deadline for July 11 issue and must also include material that would ordinarily appear in the July 18 issue.

Thursday, July 4, is deadline for the July 25 issue.

Thursday, July 18, is deadline for the Aug. 1 issue (back to regular schedule).

I will be at my desk on those Thursdays to receive your calls and sort my mail. Hope to hear from you. The phone number is 422-2331.

Friday, June 14

ONEG SHABBAT

The Beach Hebrew Institute is holding its last Oneg Shabbat of the season on Friday, June 14, at 7:30 p.m. when the guest speaker will be **Sheldon Lerman** of B'nai Brith. His topic will be The Implications of Peace in the Middle East.

Beach Hebrew Institute is located at 109 Kenilworth Ave.

MUSICAL AFTERNOON

Concert pianist **Lola Julitta Burns** will be performing at Cheltenham Nursing Home, 5935 Bathurst St., on Friday, June 14, from 2-3 p.m. Her program will include dancing, popular and Jewish music.

Saturday, June 15

KOL YISROEL CONGREGATION

Mark Biller, Baal Tefillah of Kol Yisroel Congregation, which meets every Shabbat morning at 9:30 at the Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is sponsoring the kiddush this Saturday, June 15.

Biller says this is his way of thanking all the people who have come and enjoyed the services with him. He issues a special invitation to the residents of the area to join in the service and be his guest for the kiddush.

Sunday, June 16

J.B. SALSBERG REMINISCES

At the Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Brotherhood Father's Day breakfast meeting on Sunday, June 16, the guest speaker will be **J.B. Salsberg**. His topic — J.B.Salsberg Reminisces.

The time is at 9:30 a.m. at the synagogue, 55 Yeomans Rd.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE TEA

The Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association is hosting a fund-raising tea on Sunday, June 16, from 1-5 p.m. at the home of **Dr. Abraham and Miriam Gelbloom**, 2 Shady Oaks Cres. The community (both men and women) is invited.

Proceeds will help pay legal costs involved in the association's well-known commitment to the protection of Jewish rights everywhere, particularly on issues of hate-mongers and anti-Israel propaganda.

AUCTION AND SALE

B'nai Torah Synagogue's annual auction and sale is taking place Sunday, June 16, at the synagogue, 465 Patricia Ave. The sale starts at 5:30 p.m. and the auction at 7:30.

The sale is offering new clothing, books, housewares, toys, auto parts (mud guards, mirrors and such). And at the auction you'll be able to bid for gas barbecue, leather jacket, Stratford tickets, restauarant dinners, gift certificates and more.

For information, call 226-3700.

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Brotherhood's annual Father's Day breakfast is set for Sunday, June 16. Guest speaker **Billy Harris**, hockey star with the Toronto Maple Leafs 1955-65, will speak on The Leafs Before Ballard — The Golden Years. A slide presentation will accompany his talk.

Services are at 9:15 a.m., breakfast at 10 at the synagogue, 100 Elder St. Everyone is welcome.

LZA BRUNCH

The LZA built a memorial hall and school for the orphaned children of the IDF Signal & Electronic Corps in Yehud, Israel. The building houses a recreation and memorial hall, a social hall and an Amal technical school, where the children are trained with the most modern communications and electronic equipment. These same youngsters help retrain the new young Russian immigrants.

Joseph Krystal

Joseph Krystal, national president of the Amal Vocational Schools and Toronto chairman of the LZA Yehud project said "We undertook to build a home for these orphans — what was to have been an all Canadian LZA project, and Toronto LZA did it alone in less than three years."

Yaen Vered, director of the Yehud School in Israel, will be the guest speaker at a free brunch on Sunday, June 16, at 11 a.m. at the Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. All members are invited to attend and help dedicate this memorial school. For reservations, call 630-9444.

HEBREW LITERARY CIRCLE

The Hebrew Literary Circle will meet on Sunday, June 16, at 8 p.m. at the Albert J. Latner Jewish Public Library, 4600 Bathurst St.

Prof. Rachel Brenner-Feldhi will discuss **Sholem Aleichem's** story, Song of Songs.

Monday, June 17

IN THE SHADOWS

The acclaimed film, *In the Shadows: The Tragedy of Syrian Jewry*, will be screened on Monday, June 17, at 8:30 at the Anshei-Minsk Synagogue, 10 St. Andrews St. (Kensington Market). The film's producer/director **Cayle Chernin** will attend.

Suggested admission is $7.50. Refreshments will be served.

FAMILY PURITY

The series of brunch-time shiurim dealing with The Four Phases of Man, sponsored by the Women's Study Program of Ohr Somayach Thornhill, continues on Monday, June 17, with **Mira Svirsky**, author on the subject of Family Purity, speaking on The Metaphysical Aspects of Family Purity.

These lectures take place in the Ohr Somayach board room, 613 Clark Ave. W., from 10-11:30 a.m. where brunch and coffee are served. Babysitting is available.

Couvert is $3. For more information and reservations, call **Michelle** or **Jill** at 886-5730.

BASICS SEMINAR

The BASICS seminar on Monday, June 17, will deal with the topic Stress. BASICS, sponsored by Aish HaTorah, is a series of individual seminars which explore the wit and wisdom of Judaism. Seminars are geared to students and professionals 20-45 years of age.

The time is 7 p.m. at Aish HaTorah, 296 A Wilson Ave. The phone number is 636-7530.

ISRAEL PHILATELY

The Canadian Association for Israel Philately (CAFIP) is holding its June meeting on Monday, the 17th, at 7:30 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave. The topic, Philatelic Judaica, will be presented by member **Harold Alter** and will include a slide show.

CAFIP also announces that it will be hosting a philatelic exhibit at the Albert J. Latner Jewish Public Library, 4600 Bathurst St., on Sunday, June 23, from 1-4 p.m. Exhibits from members' collections will be presented on such topics as Israel stamps, Judaica, the Middle East conflict as portrayed on stamps, Kéren Kayemet labels, and even Jewish personalities on sports-cards. The public is invited to attend.

CAFIP is also looking for new members as well as guest speakers. Contact **Alvin Dickstein**, president, at 594-8919 days, or **Hartley Garshowitz**, program chairman, at 665-3555 days or 731-9268 evenings.

GAY & LESBIAN SUPPORT

A meeting of the Jewish Support Group for Families of Gays and Lesbians is scheduled for Monday, June 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst St.

For more information, call **Ruth** at 763-9111. Parents and/or other-family members are assured of strictest confidentiality.

Tuesday, June 18

BONDS SPONSOR LUNCHEON

The women's division, State of Israel Bonds, invites you to attend the annual sponsor luncheon being held Tuesday, June 18, at 12:30 p.m. at the home of **Helen Friedman**, 19 Alexandra Wood. Special guest will be **Lisa Belzberg**, former associate director of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations

A great selection of door prizes includes one round trip ticket to Israel. Admission is by 1991 State of Israel Bond purchase. Couvert is $25. RSVP to **Gail Dombrofsky** at 789-3351.

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM SISTERHOOD

At the Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood luncheon on Tuesday, June 18, the guest speaker will be humorist/folklorist **Julius Sokoloff**.

The time is 12:30 p.m. at the synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave. Call **Ruth Fruitman** at 731-6660 or **Rose Mintz** at 633-7190 for reservations.

BOOK REVIEW

The Temple Sinai Book Review closing feature attraction of the season is a book review by well-known literary and film critic **Heather Kassel**. The book is *A Dream Like Mine*, authored by **M.T. Kelly**.

The date is Tuesday, June 18, at Temple Sinai, 210 Wilson Ave. Coffee is at 12:30 p.m., book review at 1. The fee is $5 and everyone is welcome.

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH ISSUES

The Chabad Adult Institute four-part lecture series on Insights Into Contemporary Issues with **Rabbi J. Immanuel Schochet** concludes on Tuesday, June 18, with Miracles — From Exodus to the Persian Gulf.

The lecture begins at 8:30 p.m. at Chabad Lubavitch Centre, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. Admission is $4. Refreshments will be served. For information, call 731-7000.

SCIENCE FAIR

Ira Markus is shown with his science project on Distillation at the recent Science Fair held at Bathurst campus of United Synagogue Day School. All Grade 7 and 8 students, with the help of science teacher Steve Baker, participated as part of their class curriculum.

LECTURE & DISCUSSION GROUP

A Tuesday morning enrichment lecture and discussion group meets at Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst St., in the board room from 9:45 to 11:30 weekly through June.

At the June 18 session, **Gail Gould**, educator, Metro Toronto social committee on child abuse, will discuss How to Talk to Your Children About Personal Safety.

Babysitting is available from 9:30 a.m. For information, call **Rhonda** at 663-3812.

LIVING WITH CANCER

The Living with Cancer program gives patients and their families and friends emotional, social and practical support and guidance through group discussions facilitated by trained volunteers. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month, from 7:30-9 p.m. at the Canadian Cancer Society Willowdale Unit, 6075 Yonge St., 4th floor. The next meeting is scheduled for June 18.

For more information, call 226-0646.

Wednesday, June 19

AUCTION SALE OF THE SEASON

"A bargain for you is a blessing for us" is what Chabad Lubavitch of Markham says about its annual grand auction taking place Wednesday, June 19, at 7:30 p.m. at Le Parc Hotel- Markham (Leslie and Hwy. 7).

You'll find an impressive selection of jewelry, leather jackets, patio and home furniture, dinnerware, home appliances, vacation packages and much more (all the merchandise is new), plus door prizes, raffles, refreshments.

Entrance fee is $5. For further information, call 886-0420.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Alcoholics Anonymous meets monthly at Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. The next meeting takes place Wednesday, June 19, at 8 p.m.

This is the only location of Alcoholics Anonymous in Toronto meeting at a synagogue or a Jewish organization. Those interested are asked to call **Rabbi Steven Cohen** at the synagogue office, 229-2600.

Ben Lennick Sylvia Lennick

AN EVENING WITH THE LENNICKS

On Wednesday, June 19, the Jewish theatre committee of Toronto Jewish Congress is presenting an evening with **Sylvia and Ben Lennick** entitled It Started with the Standard Theatre: The Spread of Yiddish Theatre in Canada.

The evening will take the form of an illustrated lecture outlining interviews they have had with Jewish actors.

It's all happening at the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St., 4th floor conference centre, at 8 p.m. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

ASSOCIATED FASHION SHOW

Over 650 women attended the Associated Hebrew School's Parents' Association recent special event, Spring '91 — A Fashion Show. The evening was a huge success, with spring and summer fashions, boutiques exhibiting fashion accessories, clothing and gifts, gift bags for each guest and exciting door prizes. Proceeds will be used by the Parents' Association to purchase audio-visual equipment, playground toys and library books. From left are Mary Bien, consultant; Wendi Morein and Shelley Richler, co-chairmen; and Judy Scheininger, Parents' Association president.

Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

CHALLENGES OF STAYING ALIVE

Forest Hill Retirement Residence, 645 Castlefield Ave., is presenting a symposium on The Challenges of Staying Alive and Well in the '90s on Wednesday, June 19, at 2 p.m.

Guest speakers are **Dr. Mel Borins**, author of *An Apple a Day*, lecturer of family and communitive medicine, University of Toronto; **Chris Dalcin**, fitness counsellor of rehabilitation for cardiac clients; **Marlene Mawhinney**, teacher, Yoga Centre of Toronto.

Admission is free. Space is limited. Early reservations are requested. RSVP to **Marlene** or **Amie** at 785-1511.

SUPPORT GROUP

Holy Blossom Temple's AIDS committee has organized ongoing support groups for HIV positive Jewish men, Jewish women, and those who are close to them.

The next meeting for Jewish men will be held on Wednesday, June 19, at 8 p.m. at the 519 Church St. Community Centre.

For information on all groups, call **Hyla** at 698-4931. All calls are in strictest confidence.

Thursday, June 20

THE POWER OF KABBALAH

The Kabbalah Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W., is presenting An Introduction to the Power of Kabbalah, the ancient wisdom of the Jewish people and the profound relationship between science and Judaism, on Thursday, June 20, at 7 p.m.

Call 631-9395 for free registration.

ETOBICOKE STUDY BRANCH NCJW

The Etobicoke Study Branch is inviting prospective members for tea on Thursday, June 20, at 1:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in a small dynamic study group that holds morning meetings, may call **Ena** at 232-1283 or **Marilyn** at 621-0842.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

A Red Cross blood donor clinic is being held at Mount Sinai Hospital, 600 University Ave., 18th floor, on Thursday, June 20, from 2-8 p.m.

LIBRARY FILMS

The film, *Anne of Green Gables* (1985), will be screened at Forest Hill Library, 700 Eglinton Ave. W., on Thursday, June 20, at 1:30 p.m.

Admission is free and refreshments are served.

And What Else Is New...

BAYCREST CENTRE GALA

Nostalgia will be the theme of this year's annual gala sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of Baycrest Centre taking place Tuesday, June 25, at 6:30 p.m. in the Galaxy Room of the Regal Constellation Hotel.

"We're calling it a Return to our Roots Celebration and promise that everyone will have a marvellous time," says gala chairman **Maralyne Wolinsky**.

Featured entertainer for the evening is comedian **Alan King**, known for his gentle, satiric routines.

Among the exciting door prizes is a bronze sculpture by **Ernest Raab**. Gala-goers may also win a key which unlocks a treasue chest containing a pair of custom-crafted gold and diamond earrings.

Tickets to this black tie affair are $350 per person (partially tax deductible) and proceeds will go to support Alzheimer's research and special care programs at Baycrest Centre. For more information or to order tickets, call 789-7071, ext. 2010.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS SHABBATON

A university students overnight Shabbaton is being sponsored by JEP/Joseph Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Learning June 21-11. The theme is Free to be Jew and Me.

Meet at JEP, 2939 Bathurst St., at 5 p.m. on Friday, June 21. The Shabbaton concludes Saturday evening with a concert by **Steve Miller** of Aleph Beat.

The cost of $25 includes all meals and accommodation. For advance registration, call **Sharon** at JEP at 785-5899.

SUNDAY BRUNCH FOR MEN

Chabad Lubavitch of Thornhill is sponsoring a Sunday brunch for men on June 23 when guest speaker **Rabbi Sholom Lipskar** will speak on A Practical Approach to the Messianic Age. Rabbi Lipskar is spiritual leader of The Shul, Bal Harbour Florida, and director of the Aleph Institute.

The time is 10 a.m. (Shacharit 9 a.m.) at Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. Couvert is $10. RSVP by calling 731-7000.

A DAY AT THE RACES

D. Lou Harris Chapter of Akim, in support of the mentally handicapped youth of Israel, has arranged a buffet luncheon and day at the races at Woodbine Racetrack on Thursday, June 27.

Meet at Temple Sinai parking lot, 210 Wilson Ave. The bus leaves at 11 a.m. sharp. The price is $38 (men are required to wear jackets).

For tickets, call **Hilda Green** at 782-0923.

SUNDAY FUNDAY

Sunday, June 23, will be Sunday Funday at Shaareh Haim Synagogue when there will be a children's concert with **Sandy Offenheim** and Family, followed by a hot dog lunch, clowns, mimes, balloons, children's boutiques.

The concert begins at 11 a.m. at the synagogue, 9711 Bayview Ave. Admission is $5 per child/adult or $20 for the entire family. Everyone is welcome!

For tickets, phone **Helen Rudolph** at 884-3353.

PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATOR

The Koffler Centre School of Dance is looking for a production co-ordinator for its 1992 spring performance.

This is a volunteer position that will offer skill development opportunities which will include working closely under the direction and guidance of the dance school director, public relations, house program design, financial reporting, project management and receptions and social events.

The position will require 3-4 hours per week, beginning the week of Oct. 20, 1991, to the week of June 21. Contact **Jacque Foesier** at 636-1880, ext. 359 for more information.

NFJA CELEBRATION

The New Fraternal Jewish Association is holding an Israel Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, June 22, at 8 p.m. at the NFJA Centre, 120 Overbrook Pl.

The evening features guest speaker **David Oren**, Israeli consul in Toronto, plus a musical program with internationally acclaimed pianist **Natasha Tiomkina** and renowned oboeist **Senia Trubashnik**.

Refreshments will be served. Admission is $5. For registration, call **Anne Harris** at 226-1166 or **Esther Naistein** at 663-0497.

BEGINNERS YIDDISH

Beth Sholom Synagogue adult education committee is presenting a beginners Yiddish course on Mondays at 8 p.m. at the synagogue school wing, 1445 Eglinton Ave. W. Some knowledge of the Hebrew alphabet is required.

The course will run for six weeks. The charge is $20. For information, call the synagogue office at 783-6103.

PUBLIC SERVICE SEMINARS

The Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim Hospital/Jerusalem sponsors public seminars on a variety of topics — CPR for adults and children, streetproofing for adults and children, heart disease, Alzheimer's and many more.

Anyone interested in attending any of these seminars may call the Canadian Friends at 785-1884.

BAYCREST TERRACE SYNAGOGUE

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue, 55 Ameer Ave., holds Shacharit services weekdays at 8:30 a.m. and Mincha, Maariv at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

For information, call 256-1600.

DEVELOPING CAPABLE PEOPLE

Developing Capable People is a program designed to give parents and educators invaluable and practical training in helping children develop self-esteem, judgement and more. This program is sponsored by Parents Against Drugs, Parents in Transition, and Health and Welfare Canada.

For information, call 225-6604 or 485-0551.

DEPRESSION SUPPORT

Depression Support and Mutual Aid meets Wednesdays for people experiencing or recovering from depression. Help yourself by joining others who share your problems. Meetings are held in the Bathurst-Eglinton area.

For information, contact **Roslyn** at 789-7957.

BE THE LEADER OF THE BAND

Would you like to be the leader of a band? Can you play the piano? If so, Baycrest Hospital needs you to volunteer as a band leader for seniors' day care.

For more information, call the volunteer department at 785-2850.

for seniors

The LZA Seniors Club reports that there are a couple of spaces available for the trip to the Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills leaving July 21 and July 23. Other upcoming trips being planned are a day cruise to the Welland Canal and a visit to a winery in August, and a day trip to Stratford to see Carousel Oct. 30...The Dance Group sessions have been suspended for the summer and will resume in September...The Cultural Group meets on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. At the June 18 session, **Harry Weinstock** will speak on New Social Trends in the Post Cold War World.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club, 470 Glencairn Ave., announces that a fabulous trip to Israel is scheduled for three weeks, Nov. 13-Dec. 4. Also, a super trip to the Homowack Hotel in the Catskills is arranged for July 10-18...On Monday, June 17, a video presentation of the Boston Conservatory Klezmer will be screened at 1 p.m. A musical program is planned for the summer closing on Monday, June 24, at 1 p.m. For information regarding trips and programs, call **Lena** at 785-5773 or **Ruth** at 224-5923...Remember the Golden Book to mark special occasions. Your donations go to the Lanaido Hospital and Orphanage in Israel. Call **Dorothy Bloomfield** at 787-1526.

The JCC Bloor Y branch, 750 Spadina Ave. (at Bloor) is running seniors' programs throughout the summer — knitting, bridge, dance, fitness and the Good Age Club. Call **Luni** at 924-6211 for information.

The Canadian Israeli Club Aluma, for Israelis and Hebrew-speaking persons 55 and over, meets every Wednesday evening from 7:30-9:30 at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. On June 19 **Avner Meiri** will give a lecture on The Kurds — Victims of Politics. For information, call **Avner Meiri** at 663-1443 or **Oved Azuri** at 631-9794 or **Gitit Gilran** at the Wagman Centre at 789-5131, ext. 2271.

At the **Wagman Centre**, 55 Ameer Ave. — To rejuvenate your sense of humor and feel better about yourself come to a lecture presented by the Wellness Education Group at Baycrest Centre on Wednesday, June 19, when popular seminar leader and former educator **Carole Bertuzzi** will give tips on how to appreciate the funnier moments of life, even when there isn't much to laugh about. The time is 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the assembly room. There is no charge for Wagman Centre members and Baycrest Terrace residents, $2 for guests to be paid at the door. For seating purposes, register by June 14. For more information and to register, call 789-5131, ext. 2267...The summer outings program has arranged a trip to Artpark, Lewiston, N.Y., to see the musical, *South Pacific*, on Wednesday, June 26. The charge is $27 members, $29 non-members. Register with payment at the Wagman Centre office. For more information, call **Chyla Talesnick** at 789-5131, ext.2274...On Sunday, June 16, the movie *Dad* starring **Jack Lemmon** will be screened from 1:30-3 p.m. in the assembly room...The Tuesday evening program on June 18 features the Singing Trio Band in a pro-

[Cont'd. on page 24]

BETEL CENTRE FORUM

At the recent public affairs forum on The Canadian Economy — Who Controls It? held at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living were (from left) Lou Goldenberg, chairman, public affairs forum; Prof. Neil Brooks, guest speaker; Michelle Swenarchuk, panelist; MPP Monte Kwinter, panelist; Ed Segalowitz, executive director, Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living; Malka Rosenberg, constituency assistant to Mr. Kwinter; Susan Lamb, director of social services, and Helen Issenberg, co-ordinator of membership services.

TREE PLANTING

Taking part in planting Trees for Canada and in celebration of Lag B'Omer at St. Andrews Park recently are (from left) Charles Jacobs, 36B Brownsea Beavers; Melanie Faust, 254 Toronto Guides, Associated Hebrew Schools (Hurwich), and Ian Kideckel, 36B Brownsea Cubs. About 100 boys and girls participated in the program and saw over 1,200 trees planted. This was the second year that Muslim youngsters joined in the event, which was organized by the Jewish advisory Committee on scouting. [John Witchel photo]

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Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 23]

gram of Hebrew and Yiddish music. That's from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the assembly room.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club's upcoming trips include a bus run to Kitchener, Wednesday, June 19 ($16 per person), Catskills trip to the Pines Hotel July 7-14 ($775 Canadian eight days, $575 six days), and a Buffalo shopping tour, Tuesday, July 23, ($20, please bring your own lunch)...A special highlight is the Father's Day dinner and dance Sunday, June 23, for members only ($15)...The woodworking shop has approximately 20 members participating on a full or part-time basis. Seniors are invited to drop in and observe the operation. Suggestions or volunteer assistance would be most welcomed. In addition to the crafts, the group also offers furniture repairs including chair recovering — special rates for members!..Ongoing activities continue. For information on all trips and programs, call the club office at 636-7856, Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Holy Blossom Temple's **Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group** is arranging a bus trip to the McMichael Gallery in Kleinberg on Wednesday, July 17, with a guided tour and high tea at a cost of $10 for the entire afternoon. Reserve with the group or with **Tera** at the temple office at 789-3291. Also, an outing is being planned for August. Lectures resume Oct. 9.

Young at Heart Seniors is holding a meeting on Monday, June 17, at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, Tessler Hall, 100 Elder St...A trip to the Catskills at the Pines Hotel is set for Aug. 4-13 with lots of goodies including a trip to Atlantic City, deluxe medical insurance, three kosher meals daily (under New York kashrut law) and much more, all for only $890 Canadian. For information, call **Manny** at 633-7463 from 1-9 p.m. or **Helen** at 635-6343 from 7-11 p.m. or 462-0258 from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Club Chaverim meets for bingo and cards on Mondays from 12:30-4 p.m. at the JCC North/East Valley Branch, 7015 Leslie St. For information, call **Nurit** at 889-0813.

Sunshine Active Seniors, 55-70, welcomes you Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at Earl Bales Community Centre, for an afternoon of socializing and mix and mingle. Come out and participate in upcoming events, lectures, outings and more along with refreshments and door prizes...A boat ride with entertainment is planned for Monday, July 22, at a cost of $10 including transportation. Call **Sylvia** at 730-0503 or **Freda** at 224-0549.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is located at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. The phone number is 225-2112.

New Legislation and You, regarding the three new bills being introduced by the Ontario government — The Advocacy Act, the Substitute Decision Act, the Health Services Consent Act — will be discussed on Thursday, June 20, by lawyer **Judy Wahl**, executive director of the Advocacy Centre for the Elderly. The time is 1:30 p.m. This is sponsored by the Awareness Project on Abuse of the Elderly. There is no charge. For information, call **Sheila Zane** at 225-2112.

An afternoon of fabulous entertainment is set for Tuesday, June 23, with a visit to Hamilton Place to see the Geritol Follies. The cost is $28 (bring or buy your own lunch). For details, call volunteer co-ordinator **Barbara Zigler** at 225-2112.

A reminder that the 11th annual Health Fair is being held Thursday, June 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A dessert evening concert featuring Songs of Love with **Albert Oliviero** is taking place Wednesday, June 19, at 7 p.m. The charge is members $4, non-members $5.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band on Sunday, June 16, from 7:30-10:30 p.m. The charge is $3 members, $3.50 non-members.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club for Hebrew-speaking older adults, meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. For information, call **Helen Issenberg** at 225-2112.

CHEQUE

United Synagogue Day School, Bayview campus student Matthew Shulman is shown presenting a cheque to Helen Cooper, spokesman for the Ronald Feld Fund for Jews in Arab lands. Students took up a petition to send to Brian Mulroney protesting the treatment of Jews in these countries.

WEDDING

Even a doctor and a banker sometimes need a little help from outside sources. Cheryl and Peter were searching for one another and the introduction service "302," sponsored by the Toronto Zionist Council, brought them together. Another happy ending for the introduction service, which is available to anyone in the Jewish community, 25-45 years of age, at no cost. Interested individuals may write to "302," 788 Marlee Ave., Toronto M6B 3K1.

at the JCC

At the Jewish Community Centre North Y branch, 4588 Bathurst St., the JCC Original Singles 50 Plus is holding a dance Sunday, June 16, at 8 p.m. Tickets are $6. Call **Stephanie Shuler** at 636-1880.

Basketball Camp for boys and girls, ages 6-16, will be running Aug. 26-30 at the North Y branch. Instruction and competition is offered at all levels. For more information, contact **Janine Krusky**, basketball co-ordinator, at 636-1880, ext. 261.

Centre to Centre Israel program is still accepting applications. The trip dates are July 3-24 and the cost is $1750 including airfare, meals, accommodation and a three-week tour of Israel. Time is running out, so call **Burt Serfaty** at 636-1880, ext. 266.

Registration is now taking place for summer camp at the JCC Bloor Y branch, 750 Spadina Ave. (at Bloor). Call **Florence** at 924-6211 for further information.

JCC North/East Valley branch, 7015 Leslie St., offers adult duplicate bridge for members every Monday evening from 7:30-11. The cost is $3 per session. For information, call **Nurit** at 889-0813.

The Valley Tennis and Swim Club is holding a tennis round robin on Sunday, June 16, at the Valley, 7015 Leslie St. Tennis is from 7:30-9 p.m. and dancing begins at 8:30. The cost is $8. Call **Nurit** at 889-0813 for information.

Register now for the Valley junior summer program for ages 5-12. The two-week sessions, starting July 2, offer tennis and swim lessons and more. For information, call **Nurit** at 889-0813.

Call the JCC Singles Hotline at 889-5101 for 24-hour taped information of events at the JCC and around the city.

About People

SECOND BAR MITZVAH

If the biblical span is 70 (three score and ten), might it not be logical for a person of 83 (70 plus 13) to have another bar mitzvah? Three London, Ont., gentlemen did just that.

On Saturday morning, June 1, **Meyer Epstein, Hyman Ginsberg** and **Harry Silverstein** were called to the reading of the Torah at services at Or Shalom Synagogue, London, in celebration of their second bar mitzvah, or Bar Mitzvah-83 as it was called.

Meyer Epstein, well-known London furrier, was born in Bristol, England, and came to Canada in 1929. He was active in the London business community, in the Jewish community and performed for many years with the London Little Theatre. He and his wife **Ruth** have a daughter **Naomi**.

Hyman Ginsberg, involved in London's hotel industry as a hotel owner, was active in the London Hotel Association and the Liberal party (before the Second World War) but he devoted most of his adult life to synagogue life. Formerly president of B'nai Israel Synagogue, he is currently honorary gabbai of Or Shalom and still serves on the Chevra Kadisha (burial society) in London. He and his wife **Muriel** have three children and three grandchildren.

Harry Silverstein was president of Silverstein's Foods Ltd. for 45 years. He was the first Jew appointed to the vocational committee of the London board of education, first Jew appointed to the advisory committee of St. Joseph's Hospital and the first Jewish member of the Rotary Club. He helped organize London's Hospital Linen Supply Co., and has served with B'nai Brith and Israel Bonds.

Rabbi Hillel Milgram and his wife **Debby** came to London especially for the occasion. A former rabbi in the community, Rabbi Milgram is currently spiritual leader of Temple Israel in Charlotte, North Carolina.

ALPHA OMEGA PRESIDENT

Dr. Warren Sone was recently installed as president of the Toronto Alumni Chapter of the international dental fraternity Alpha Omega. This charitable organization represents the Jewish voice in dentistry. The Toronto Chapter has over 800 members locally and is active in raising funds for "adopt a Russian dentist" and refurbishing the Israeli dental schools.

Dr. Warren Sone

Dr. Sone was born and raised in Toronto and received his BSc. and dentistry degrees from the University of Toronto. He has a general practice in Scarborough. Dr. Sone and his wife **Rhonda** have two sons, **Eryn** and **Aiden**.

DOCTOR OF LAWS DEGREE

On Thursday, June 13, **Rosalie Abella**, lawyer, judge, scholar and currently chairman of the Ontario Law Reform Commission, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree at York University's faculty of arts convocation.

Abella is being honored for her "outstanding role in the advancement of the cause of women in Canada, through the promotion of equality in employment."

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BB LODGE PROGRAM

B'nai Brith's Toronto Eglinton Lodge and the Institute for International Affairs recently sponsored a successful program entitled Three Sides of the Soviet Empire. Shown (from left) are participants Henry Moos, Randi Zlotnick, Lynn Kirshin and Bert Raphael. The evening was moderated by Paul Marcus, national director of B'nai Brith's institute, and organized by Avi Hyman, Toronto Eglinton Lodge president.

singles events

Singles Events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. ***Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.*** *For rates or to place an ad, please call Alan at 422-2528.*

Metro Toronto Singles
presents a **Rare Saturday Night Party**. Singles night at **Park Avenue**, 4950 Yonge Street (in the Madison Centre, north of Sheppard). **Saturday, June 15**...8:00pm. Cover $10.00. For information call **222-7111**. 5429

Back at the North "Y" Branch, the JCC Original Singles 50 Plus presents a Dance. Sunday, June 16th. 8:00pm. D.J. $6.00 fee. For information call Stephanie, 636-1880 ext. 283. 5186

It was so much fun last year. So...
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The Jewish Community Centre of Toronto, Valley Tennis and Swim Club, 7015 Leslie St. Join us for a **Tennis Round Robin and Dance** on Sunday, June 16th. Tennis from 7:30-9:00pm. Dance at 8:30pm. D.J. Refreshments. Cash bar. Cost $8.00. For more information call Nurit, 889-0813. 5269

Party at **Simcoe-North**, 2 Rosehill Ave. Saturday, June 15th, 8:00pm. Cover $10.00. For more information call **Lishar Productions** at 783-1813. 5330

Atideynu Lodge (Singles Co-ed 20's & 30's). **Beach Party Dance.** June 23rd. 8:00pm. 15 Hove Street. Dress code; Beach wear. Cover; Non-members $10.00, members $8.00. Tickets at door only. Free refreshments. Cash bar. Contact; Shari Isenberg 223-7173. 5246

***Games Jewish Singles Play**
Sunday, June 16th, 8:00pm. Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook (South of Lawrence, East off Dufferin). Beth Torah Singles invites you to a fun games evening! Group A, ages 26-40. Group B, ages 41-69. *Chutzpah, Trump, Trivial Pursuit, Bridge, Scrabble, Balderdash, Yuk-Yuk, Pictionary etc. Early Bird Bingo, 8-8:30. Prizes. Refreshments. Admission $5.00. Information, Mollie 733-3634, Myrna 223-6028. 5256

Oneg Shabbat (pot-luck dinner). June 14th. 7:30pm. For singles 35-50. For reservations call Sonia at 881-5183. Upcoming events;
B-B-Q day in the country. Dancing in a romantic setting, picnic by waters edge. 5357

Metro Toronto Singles presents a **Super Boat Cruise**, Monday July 1st (Canada Day) aboard the Empire Sandy, Toronto's most spectacular "Tall Ship". Includes fireworks display over lake, all you can eat buffet and D.J. Meet 250 Jewish singles. 50% of tickets already sold. Advance sales only. **222-7111** for information. 5427

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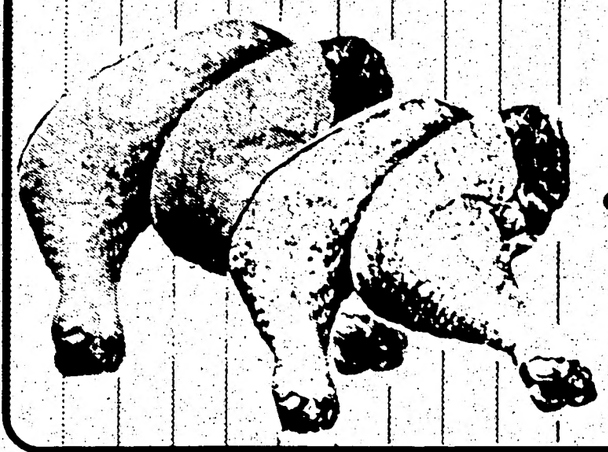

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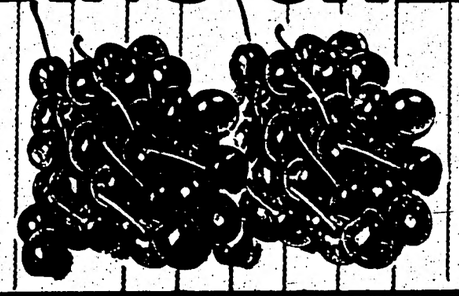

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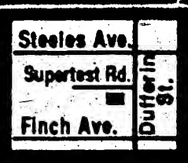

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Organizations and People

Israeli veterans get taste of Canadian hospitality

By
RON CSILLAG

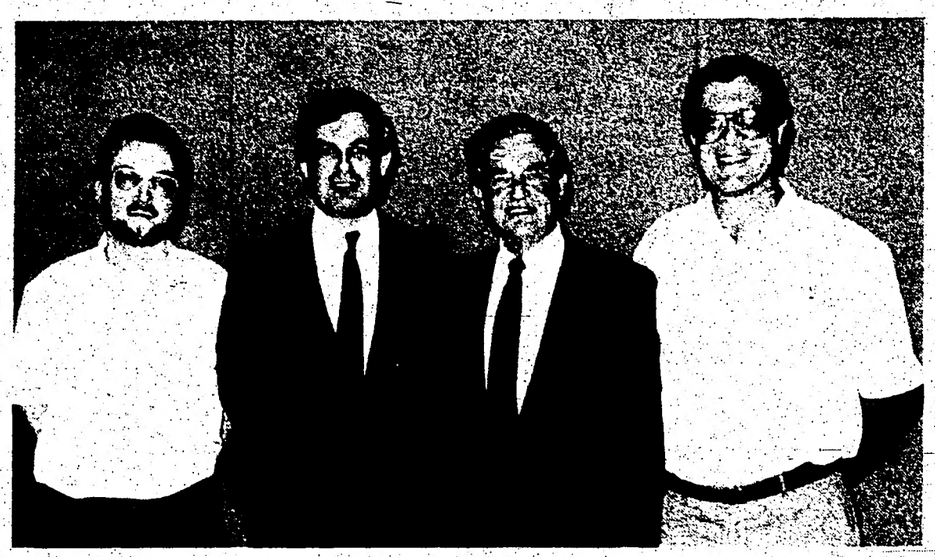
TORONTO —

Twenty disabled Israeli veterans got a taste of Canadian hospitality over the past two weeks, thanks to the annually-sponsored visit here by Beit Halochem Canada (Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel).

The soldiers, ranging in age from their 20's to their 60's and with varying degrees of disability, enjoyed two weeks of sightseeing, receptions and R&R.

All were billeted by members of Beth Tikvah Congregation and Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Synagogue, the tour's hosts this year.

The annual trips to Canada by disabled Israeli veterans is a way of connecting Israeli soldiers with the Diaspora, and of Diaspora Jews to show their appreciation to the defenders of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada board chairman Shai Schechter told The CJN.



At a community reception last week were (from left) veteran Aharaon Verbnor, Beit Halochem Canada board chairman Shai Schechter, Israel consul-general Benjamin Abileah and veteran Shmuel Sela.

There are over 37,000 disabled war veterans in Israel, with permanent injuries sustained in conflicts from the 1948 War of Independence right up to clashes today, Schechter said.

Beit Halochem Canada raises money for two main facilities in Israel for disabled veterans, one in Tel Aviv and the other in Haifa. These offer the disabled soldier rehabilitation programs as well as leisure and recreation activities.

The ground breaking for a new centre in Jerusalem took place recently.

While in southern Ontario, the veterans took in the usual sites: the SkyDome, Science Centre, Niagara Falls, the CN Tower, Ontario Place and the Royal Ontario Museum, where they viewed the Coat of Many Colours exhibit.

The organization's new leadership group organized a boat cruise of Toronto harbor.

Included in the veterans' packed itinerary was a meeting with Ontario's Lieutenant-Governor, Lincoln Alexander.

The visit wound up with a community reception last week at Beth Tikvah, where Israel's consul-general, Benjamin Abileah, offered words of encouragement and thanks.

In his remarks, Abileah slammed a group of women who regularly gather at the Israeli consulate to protest the occupation of the territories.

Abileah called the women involved in the Jewish Women's Committee to End the Occupation of the West Bank and Gaza "misguided. I only wish they could meet some of these soldiers."

Disabled Israeli soldiers met Ontario's Lieutenant - Governor at a Queen's Park reception. From left are Ofer Mualem, Lt.-Gov. Lincoln Alexander, Ranaan Ellran and Avraham Ganor. [Alron photo]

Yiddish program rescued

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

The Yiddish Studies Program at the University of Toronto has been rescued for 1991-92 but its existence beyond that is still in doubt.

This was announced recently by Arthur Kruger, acting director of Jewish Studies.

The program will go on in the next year through the generosity of the committee on Yiddish of the Toronto Jewish Congress and the Department of German at U of T, he said.

If students are to study the Eastern European and early North and South American experience of Jews, then Yiddish is crucial, Kruger said, and if Yiddish is to survive as a language, the universities must play a role in the training of teachers and readers.

"We are looking for someone who understands the importance of Yiddish and is willing to establish a named professorship in Yiddish at U of T," he said. "What better way is there to honor one's parents and grandparents who loved Yiddish?"

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Need more nurturing, embracing

Liv Ullmann urges women to help change world

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

There wasn't a dry eye in the house.

And it was no act, although it was Liv Ullmann, among the world's greatest international actors, who delivered the heartfelt address at last month's Toronto Hadassah-WIZO's lunch on behalf of youth aliya.

Ullmann, star of stage and screen and a best-selling author, not to mention well-known supporter of Israel and lifetime member of Hadassah-WIZO, spoke movingly and passionately about the issues that have been close to her for years: the rights of children and the mission of women to change the world.

"I'm a woman, a mother and grandmother," the ageless Ullmann, born in Japan to Norwegian parents, said. "I'm not so beautiful," she continued, to good-natured hoots of denial, "but I do take pride in my womanhood."

Ullmann was appointed a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador in 1980 and her role took her to some of the poorest and most war-ravaged places on earth, places where children are the mirror opposites of their well-fed, well-clothed North American counterparts.

She recalled one visit to a city in South America, where street urchins longed for little more than to be read to and tucked in at night. Years later, Ullmann recalled, she returned to the same city and discovered that the gang's leader was working to get children off the streets.

Changing the world, Ullmann said, is up to women.

"Women will reinterpret the world and maybe question dominant, old, patriarchal values. We need more female values. Nurturing, holding, embracing ... that will be a better world for us all.

From left are Joan Kerbel, president of Toronto Hadassah-WIZO; Judith Winberg, Youth Aliyah vice-chairman: Liv Ullmann, guest speaker; Susie Zarnett, Youth Aliyah chairman.[Graphic Artists photo]

"We women must learn that everything is connected. We must learn to educate ourselves. Let us use a new language — a language of love and strength born of compassion and deeds."

Ullmann recalled, with tears in her eyes, how her grandfather had been murdered at Dachau for helping hide Jews in Norway during the Second World War. Norway, she said, helped save some 800 Jews by smuggling them to neutral Sweden.

The actress was in Israel during the Gulf War and although she wanted to stay, she was forced to leave because he insurance company did not extend coverage in a war zone, she said.

"It's so easy to love Israel. Israel has friends who care. But now, Israel's enemies hope a silence and indifference will descend on her again."

Children, Ullmann said, must take take centre-stage in the battle against the world's woes.

"I sincerely, deeply and firmly believe the rehabilitation and education of children is our most important task. If we took all the homeless children of the world and put them in one place, it would be the fourth most populous nation."

The lunch's proceeds will go toward youth aliya, an Israeli movement that rescues and rehabilitates children from impoverished and life-threatening circumstances, said its director, David Hagoel.

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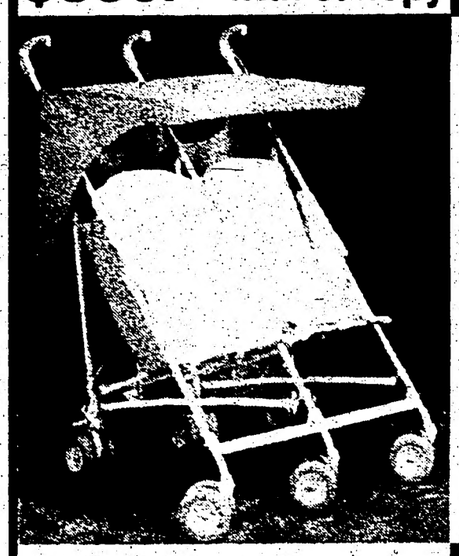

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Organizations and People

Partisans, ghetto fighters praised as Holocaust memorial unveiled

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Greetings were brought by Abileah, MP Bill Attewell, on behalf of the government of Canada; MPP Elaine Ziemba, on behalf of the government of Ontario; North York Mayor Mel Lastman; Charles Diamond, president of Toronto Jewish Congress; Sam Pasternak, on behalf of Jewish war veterans; and Joel Dimitry, chairman of Canadian Society for Yad Vashem.

Diamond noted that earlier that day, "12,000 Jews openly walked the streets of Toronto carrying Israeli and Canadian flags (on the UJA walkathon). That is proof that the Jews won and the Nazis lost."

Pasternak slammed those who claim Jews didn't serve in the Second World War.

"Nobody fought for the Jews. One and a half million Jews served in the Allied Forces. They went to war not to save other Jews, but to serve humanity."

He praised the Jewish partisans and ghetto fighters, "who had no weapons except those taken from Nazis they had killed, no Geneva convention, and for whom capture meant death."

Keynote speaker Yitzhak Arad, chairman of Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, said the plea to be remembered is not to the survivors, or the soldiers or the partisans — "they need no reminder."

The plea, he said, is to the younger generation.

The establishment of the State of Isreael, Arad said, "put an end to the concept of the Jewish refugee. Each Jew now has a home and a homeland.

With the assistance of youngsters who had been on the March of the Living, and accompanied by the Habonim Youth Choir and the Makhela Reena choir, wreaths were laid for the victims, the children, the partisans, the righteous among the nations, and for the allied forces.

Psalms were recited by Rabbis Moshe Stern, of Shaarei Tefillah Congregation and Henry Hoschander of Shaarei Shomayim.

The audience was reasonably controlled for most of the program.

But then came Kaddish, led by Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation's Rabbi Philip Scheim, and an emotional K'El Molei Rachamim by Chazzan Louis Danto.

The air was filled with anguished sobs, people buried their heads in their hands and in their neighbor's shoulders, and beat the air with their fists.

Tears poured down the faces of the honor guard, and wet the eyes of the armed forces representatives.

Then the shofar, and the partisan' song, and people drifted slowly, quietly, away.

But not before passing plaques bearing names of infamy: Sorbibar, Majdanek, Bergen Belsen, Ponary.

And from afar could be seen the flame from the top of the bronze monument, a flame representing "not the flames that consumed our loved ones," but, as Frieberg said, hope, life, remembrance."

Sculptor Ernie Raab (left) unveils his lifelong dream. He is helped by North York councillor Milton Berger.

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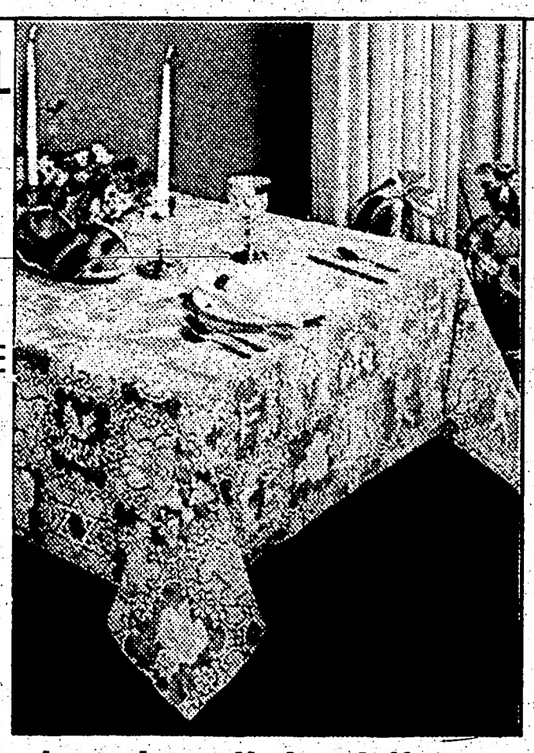

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Rosenblum honored for 25 years of service

Adath Sholom to mark 65th anniversary

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO — Adath Sholom Synagogue members are looking forward to a double simcha on the weekend of June 22 when they will celebrate the 65th anniversary of the synagogue and the 25th anniversary of Martin Rosenblum, the shul's cantor and spiritual leader.

The weekend will feature an oneg Shabbat service featuring cantors Louis Danto and Eliezer Kirshblum, a Shabbat morning service featuring former Toronto rabbi Harvey Meirovich and a gala anniversary banquet tribute to Rosenblum.

Rosenblum, who has been with the synagogue since it moved to its current location on Sheppard Avenue West, said that as cantor of the synagogue he has quite a unique role.

"Normally a synagogue employs such people as a rabbi, cantor, shames, educational director and executive director. However, because the shul employs only one clergyman, I serve the congregation in almost every facet of life."

To list only a few of the services he performs he cites officiating at religious services, weddings, aufrufs, bar and bat mitzvahs, funerals and unveilings. "As well as other duties I visit every member in the hospital, give confidential advice, teach Hebrew classes and conduct the choir."

Cantor Martin Rosenblum

Rosenblum, born in Poland in 1928, said that singing and music has always been part of his life. "I sang in choirs and led services when I was very young but unfortunately when the war broke out in 1939 my career went down the tubes."

He said that his family was sent to concentration camps where only he and his sister out of a family of nine survived. "There were times in the concentration camps when my ability to sing saved my life, helped me survive. An extra bowl of soup or a piece of bread made all the difference between life and death."

After the war Rosenblum spent four years in Italy where he had his first opportunity to study music professionally. After arriving in Toronto in 1949, he resumed his studies under such teachers as Ernesto Vinci, Madam Rublev and Madam McCurdy and also sang with the Canadian Opera Company for several years.

Rosenblum attributes the success of Adath Sholom Synagogue, which has grown almost 400 per cent in the 25 years he has been at the helm, to the "fact that we are all part of one large family. We pray together, meet on happy and sad occassions and work together to build a better shul."

Traditional haimeshe service

Asked if young people are continuing to frequent shul, Rosenblum said sadly that "it is a universal problem that young people do not attend shul. It is usually the older and established people who attend shul."

He said however, that he does not believe in using gimmicks to attract people to shul. "If we serve people well, they will come. If we give a true, traditional, haimeshe service and we treat them well, they will come back."

Rosenblum said that many visitors to the shul eventually join because they are made to feel welcome. "Being a smaller congregation, with only about 400 families, we have the time to get to know people. Newcomers do not get lost in the shuffle of crowds and everyone knows everyone else."

Students win big in essay contest

The Board of Jewish Education has announced the names of the winners in its Annual Essay Contest celebrating Jewish creative writing. The winners are:

	Group One	
1st Place	Kira Rubenstein	Shaareh Haim Hebrew School
1st Place	Benji Plener	Leo Baeck Day School
2nd Place	Marci Turner	Leo Baeck Day School
3rd Place	Diana Shedletsky	Leo Baeck Day School
	Group Two — Hebrew	
1st Place	Amir Sisso	Associated Hebrew Day Schools
2nd Place	Elisa Usher	Bialik Hebrew Day School
2nd Place	Adam Shulman	United Synagogue Day School
3rd Place	Philip Shulman	United Synagogue Day School
3rd Place	Ryan Teschner	Leo Baeck Day School
	Group Two — English	
1st Place	Yamit Berkovits	Eitz Chaim Day Schools
1st Place	Jacob Korenblum	Bialik Hebrew Day School
2nd Place	Katie Lokash	Temple Emanu-El Religious & Hebrew School
3rd Place	Andrea Bailey	Temple Emanu-El Religious & Hebrew School
	Group Three — Hebrew	
2nd Place	Ahuva Goldsmith	Eitz Chaim Day Schools
2nd Place	Diana Tamir	Bialik Hebrew Day School
3rd Place	Sarah Damelin	Leo Baeck Day School
3rd Place	Elissa Press	United Synagogue Day School
3rd Place	Tali Waxman	Bialik Hebrew Day School
	Group Three — English	
1st Place	Yonathan Wisebrod	Netivot HaTorah Day School
2nd Place	Lisa Nagel	Associated Hebrew Day Schools
3rd Place	Julie Leah Rutitsky	Associated Hebrew Day Schools
3rd Place	Shmuel Stern	Eitz Chaim Day Schools
	Group Four — Yiddish	
1st Place	Wendy Breuer	Bialik Hebrew Day School

In the awards ceremony, contest co-ordinator Yael Seliger told the audience that hundreds of entries had been received this year from day and supplementary schools affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education.

The students who reached the final stage represent a very select group, the cream of many Jewish children who entered this year's contest. The winners were selected by a panel of judges who meticulously read all the entries to reach their final decision.

All winners were rewarded by Harold Malitsky, associate director of the Board of Jewish Education, with a certificate and books on Jewish topics, courtesy of the Board of Jewish Education.

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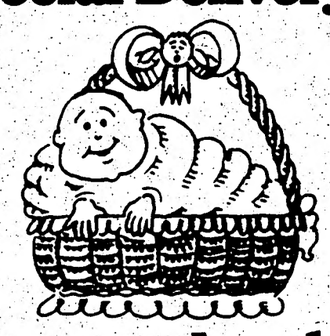

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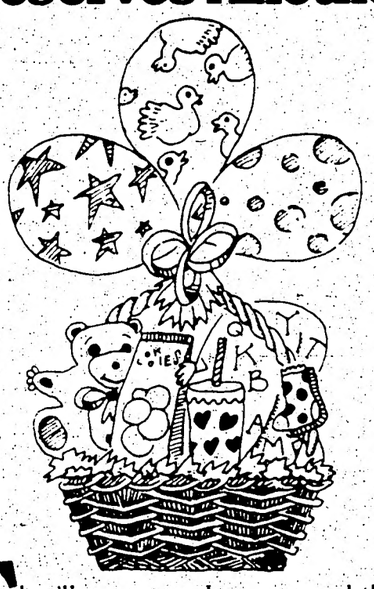

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Organizations and People

Carries on family tradition

Flatt takes over Baycrest auxiliary

Three generations: New president of Baycrest Centre's Women's Auxiliary Phyllis Flatt (centre)surrounded by daughters Susan and Rhonda and mother Beatrice Wolfe (right). All have been active members of the Baycrest Women's Auxiliary.

TORONTO — When Phyllis Flatt was named president of Baycrest Centre's Women's Auxiliary (WA) recently, she was carrying on a family tradition.

Her grandmother, Nettie Albert, and her late aunt, Anne Gans, were both WA presidents, her mother, Beatrice Wolfe, was a member, and her own daughters, Susan and Rhonda, are actively involved in the organization.

Flatt has served in a variety of organizations over the past 30 years, holding leadership positions in Hadassah-WIZO, the United Jewish Appeal, the Jewish National Fund, the Jewish Women's Federation, the Israel Cancer Research Foundation, and the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation.

She says she regards professional voluntarism as both intellectually and emotionally fulfilling: "It opens up fantastic opportunities for learning, growing and developing wonderful friendships."

Flatt is especially excited to be taking on the role of WA president at Baycrest Centre right now. "The issue of successful aging has never been as relevant as it is today," she says.

Her first task as president of the 3,200-member Women's Auxiliary is to oversee a review of fun fund-raising and service activities. She hopes the WA will be able to expand its leadership and education programs and also increase its fund-raising activities.

A former Royal Conservatory piano student who also sang in the Beth Tzedec Choral Group, Flatt says that music, especially Jewish music, is an important part of her life. She adds that as president of the WA, she would like to start a new, community-supported music program for Baycrest's elderly clients.

Flatt, who will serve as WA president until 1993, succeeds outgoing president Annette Bearg.

Bnei Akiva group returns to 'Peg after 15 years

By
MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG — After a more than 15 year absence, the Bnei Akiva movement returned to this city as about 20 children participated in a Sunday afternoon barbecue and games in a Winnipeg park.

Bnei Akiva is a religious, Zionist youth group which began as a branch of Hamizrachi Hapoel Mizrachi. It emphasizes Torah and community service. It is a worldwide organization with programs for youths from six to young adulthood.

The organization was brought back to Winnipeg by a small group of parents trying to revive modern orthodoxy in the city. A meeting was held last fall of parents and representatives from three congregations — the Chavurat Tefila, Talmud Torah and south Winnipeg's Haminyan.

Contact was made shortly after, with Bnei Akiva offices elsewhere. After a delay caused by the Gulf War, a representative came to Winnipeg in late March from the New York office to meet with parents and potential madrachim with information and ideas on programming. Bnei Akiva Winnipeg was incorporated as an affiliate of the New York office.

This first program was not greatly publicized outside the three small congregations. "This was just a sample," says Leona Lakser, one of the organizers of the new Bnei Akiva. "In the fall, we will begin regular programs every second Sunday combining different activities and Zionist content and publicize it more."

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Organizations and People

Jewish settlers commemorated with Wall of Heritage plaque

By
MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG —
The Wall of Heritage had its second plaque unveiled on Sunday, May 26, at the YMHA Jewish Community Centre.

The first plaque, dedicated to the memory of Rabbi Israel Kahanovitch, was unveiled in November, 1989. This second plaque commemorates the beginning of Jewish settlements in Manitoba and the first large group of pioneers who came in 1882.

That first group of 350 Jews was brought to Winnipeg by the Mansion House Committee, a group of British Christian and Jewish leaders formed in reaction to the Russian pogroms of 1881-82 and new restrictions on Russian Jews. The Mansion House group spearheaded efforts to bring Jews out of Russia and settle them in North America.

The Russian Jewish immigrants found in Winnipeg a growing city of about 8,000 people and a small number of largely integrated Jewish businessmen. The Jews already in Winnipeg raised several hundred dollars over a few months and organized a relief committee including several Christian members of the community to help the new arrivals. The public was sympathetic.

Many of the new immigrants found work with the Canadian Pacific Railway for the summer and fall but the following winter was very difficult. In addition to a recession which made jobs very hard to find, the winter weather was very severe and their shelter minimal.

They persevered with help from different sources and paved the way for tens of thousands of fellow eastern European Jews and other immigrants to come to Manitoba and the other Prairie provinces.

Those 350 Jews became the forerunners of a community of 20,000 in Winnipeg at its peak in the 1960s. The Jewish community now stands at about 15,500.

The plaque honoring the pioneers was designed and prepared by the Manitoba Heritage Council and the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada. The plaque is inscribed in English, French and Yiddish with a brief description of the immigrants' arrival.

The event was sponsored by the JHS and the YMHA Jewish Community Centre in conjunction with the Manitoba Heritage Council and the Culture and Heritage Minister.

Addressing the descendants of the pioneers and other members of the community who came for the unveiling were Harry Gutkin, president of the JHS; MLA Jack Reimer, representing Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon and Bonnie Mitchelson, Minister of Culture, Heritage and Citizenship; Eveline Holtmann representing the Manitoba Heritage Council; Barry Steinfeld, senior vice-president of the YMHA Jewish Community Centre; Israel Ludwig, senior vice-president, the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council and the Manitoba Canadian Jewish Congress Manitoba region; Harold Buchwald, president of the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba; Rabbi Shalom Rappaport speaking on behalf of the Council of Rabbis; and historian Dr. Henry Trachtenberg, vice-president, special events, the Jewish Historical Society, who presented an overview of the early Jewish settlement here.

Yiddish Culture Council marks 36th anniversary

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —
An 80-year-old Jew in Moscow pleaded with Cantor Louis Danto to come to his apartment in a far-away suburb to sing for him a song he remembered from his youth, *The Jewish Hope* which became known as the *Yiddish Hatikvah*.

Cantor Danto obliged and recently he sang the song again at a concert at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue marking the 36 anniversary of the Toronto Yiddish Culture Council attended by 300.

The Jewish Hope was composed by Abraham Goldfadden in 1897 for a Zionist conference in Basel, Switzerland. In 1905 Goldfadden appeared on the stage at Cooper Union Hall in New York to recite a eulogy for Theodore Herzl and he led the audience in singing *The Jewish Hope*.

Danto said the Moscow man named Yampolski, a one-time member of the Jewish Art Theatre in Moscow, gave him a dust-covered folder of Yiddish songs and begged him to record them before they were lost for all time.

Cantor Louis Danto

When he returned to Toronto, Danto recorded the songs on tape and sent a copy to Yampolski. "I hope he received it and that he is still alive. I felt so sad for him because he was living in such poor conditions. He had to have a lock on his refrigerator because he was sharing the apartment with others. The only thing he could offer me to drink was "kwass" which is made of lemon and water."

The concert honored the memory of Harry Topper, one of the Council's founders. "Our house was steeped in Yiddish culture," said Victor Topper, his son. "There were books by Yiddish writers lying everywhere and there were bookmarks in each to show that they were being read."

The other artists performing were Natasha Tiomkina, pianist, Senia Trubashkin, oboist and Lenka Lichtenberg, folk singer.

David Newman read poetry by Toronto writers Simcha Simchovich and Peretz Miransky.

Jacob Egit, Gerry Kane and Aaron Fainer spoke about the history of the Council.

Chairman Egit said the 30,000 survivors who came to Toronto after the war sparked a renewed interest in Yiddish which has continued to grow, attracting young people as well. The Council has sponsored 250 lectures by outstanding writers and artists, he said, and will continue to sponsor five or six a year.

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Warm weather beckons enthusiasts

Golf books help you get into swing

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

With the warm weather beckoning to those 18-hole tests of nerves, 'er, golf courses, chances are you've already lost a few Titleists in the water and woods that are the bane of the high-handicap golfer.

Despair not, fellow golf-thwackers, for as surely as spring follows winter, so too do golfing how-to books emerge that are designed to take you by the hand and lead you to the promised land known as par.

Novice golfers who have yet to get their feet wet might begin with *Golf Techniques in Pictures*, Perigee Books, $10.50.

Written by Michael Brown, the book addresses the techniques of the game in simple, easy to follow language that avoids the technical jargon that sometimes obfuscates other golf books.

Illustrated with sketches, this book begins at the beginning, describing for the novice how to develop a good grip, choose the proper club, swing through the ball and cope with the hazards that line today's golf courses.

Walter Ostroske, in conjunction with PGA teaching pro John Devaney, has put together an enticing manual that seemed to be aimed directly at high handicappers. Titled *Correct the 10 Most Common Golf Problems in 10 Days*, Perigee Books, $11.75, the book promises that with an hour's practice each day, at a driving range, at a course or even in your backyard, you can cure the mistakes that keep you from improving your game.

Senior golfer Chi Chi Rodriguez has a more ambitious goal. In his book, *101 Super Shots*, Harper Perennial, $12.95, Rodriguez attempts to teach the more intricate finesse shots of the game.

This book is surely aimed at the low-handicapper who long ago mastered the standard shots. Power fades, power draws, shots into the wind, changing the ball position and even its tee-off height are all at times recommended.

Written in a style that complicates an already complex and technical game, his tips are as inaccessible to me as a Stanley Cup is to the Maple Leafs.

Once you've got your game in order, you'll want to test it at some of Ontario's courses. *Ontario Golf Courses; Southern Destinations & Island Golf*, published by Golf Connections, $14.95, provides a directory of the thousands of private and public courses in Ontario.

In addition there are 100 listings of U.S., Bahamian and Bermudan courses.

The directory provides addresses, phone numbers, information on whether reservations are taken and other important data to inform the estimated 800,000 Ontario golfers who crowd the links each year.

* * *

The driving range is the place to work out the flaws in your swing and develop the techniques to make you a better golfer. [Paul Lungen photo]

Test your knowledge of golf in this brief quiz.

What is:

1: a baffy.
2: a cut.
3: a hosel.
4: a nassau.
5: match play.

ANSWERS:

1: an old-fashioned wooden club most similar to a four-wood.
2: any shot, fade or slice that moves the ball from left to right in the air.
3: the place on irons where the shaft ends and the blade begins.
4: a three-part wager, on the front nine, back nine and the overall match.
5: competition where each hole is a separate contest; winner of the most holes, wins the match.

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Arts

Jewish choral music comes alive as Iseler directs shul concert

By
CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO —

The music and performers of a program of Jewish choral music throughout the ages were in rare form at the closing concert of the musical season of the Holy Blossom Temple.

Featured were the internationally acclaimed Elmer Iseler Singers and the Holy Blossom Temple Singers, accompanied by pianist Lydia Adams.

Directed by conductor Elmer Iseler, a pioneer in the development of Canadian choral music and conductor of the Mendelssohn Choir for more than 25 years, the highlights of the evening included Srul Irving Glick's five-part *Canticle of Peace* and the world premiere of *Kol Kochve Voker*, by Yefim S. Adler, a distinguished Soviet composer who recently moved to Toronto.

There was an overwhelming response by the audience to the words and music of *Canticle of Peace*, performed by the Elmer Iseler Singers. The long and enthusiastic standing applause was a tribute to one of Canada's most performed composers whose works have been presented throughout the world. The hymn, permeated with Glick's sensitive and ethereal interpretations, was dedicated by Glick to his brother Earl Glick on his 70th birthday.

Elmer Iseler

Musical history was made with the world premiere of Adler's *Kol Kochve* — Jehuda Halevi (Golden Age of Spain) with English by Oda Marxs. The Iseler Singers and members of the Temple Singers, along with vocal solos by the rich tenor voice of Cantor Ben Maissner and excellent soprano of Renee Bouthot, made this performance a memorable event.

Adler, a world-class talent, whose works were introduced at the Holy Blossom Temple this spring, is a prolific composer. His compositions are filled with imagery and the enthusiasm of the audience augurs well for Adler as a major talent on the Canadian scene.

The disciplined voices of the Iseler Choir exuded power and spirit in their performance of John Weinzweig's *Am Yisrael Chai* (Israel Lives) with text by Malka Lee.

The eclectic program also featured the blending of the two choirs with baritone soloist Nelson Lohnes singing *Psalm 92* by Franz Schubert, Cantor Maissner's solo, *Psalm 118*, and the Iseler Singers' performance of *Im Eshkaheh* by Marc Lavry.

The concert concluded with high-spirited selections, *Old American Songs*, by Brooklyn-born composer Aaron Copland, one of America's most underrated composers, who captures the essence of the West.

The musical programs, spearheaded by Maissner at Holy Blossom Temple, have attracted a high calibre of performers and composers to the Temple's Musical Heritage Series. It enriches Toronto's musical scene.

Next season's concerts in the Musical Heritage Series promise to be equally exciting and will feature Dresdner Kreuzchor & Philharmonie performing an oratorio *Elijah* by Felix Mendelssohn, as the group begins its North American tour on Oct. 5.

There will also be a program titled The Russian Jewish Connection with conductor Maxim Shostakovich featuring a concerto for violin and chamber orchestra by Adler, and special performances by the Temple Singers and Maissner.

Those Were The Days revue set for Leah Posluns Theatre

TORONTO —

Leah Posluns Theatre is proud to announce that *Those Were The Days*, the Tony-nominated English-Yiddish musical revue, is coming to Toronto for a two-week engagement, from June 18 until June 30.

This show, which premiered on Broadway in November 1989, was unanimously acclaimed by all critics. The New York Times called it "A musical Mitzvah."

"The high-spirited cast is determined to see to it that you enjoy every minute. You'll no doubt be glad you made the journey." (WINS Radio)

The original cast will be starring in this "truly energetic and entertaining show" (Newsday). Bruce Adler, who just won the 1990/91 Drama Desk Award for best featured actor, is also nominated for this year's Tony award for the best featured performer in a musical.

He co-stars with Mina Bern, Eleanor Reissa, Robert Abelson and Lori Wilner. This show is directed and choreographed by Reissa.

Moishe Rosenfeld and Zalmen Mlotkek conceived the show which follows the Jewish music and theatre experience from the Shtetl to Second Avenue to Broadway.

The music and lyrics for the show are by leading Jewish composers and lyricists including Sholom Secunda, Abraham Ellstein, Jacob Jacobs, Ben Bonus, Joseph Rumshinsky, Itzik Manger, Sammy Cahn, Herman Yablokoff, Chane Mlotek, Aaron Lebedeff, Mordecai Gebirtig, Wolf Younin, Molly Picon and Gene Raskin.

For ticket information call the box office at 630-6752 or Ticketmaster at 872-1111. Group rates available.

Yiddish talent appears on tape

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

As if they had been expressly gathered together for an incandescent show, the greatest Jewish performers of the stage are assembled in all their glory in one glorious, nostalgic cassette entitled *Shalom: Music of the Jewish People*.

The best of the best trot out their formidable talents in this cassette distributed by Intersound International.

In a celebrated performance in English and Yiddish, the dusky-voiced Sophie Tucker delivers a wonderfully schmaltzy rendition of *My Yiddishe Momme*. It's priceless.

Al Jolson solemnly sings *The Cantor*, while Fanny Brice hams it up in *Secondhand Rose*, a song resurrected by Barbra Streisand. The Benny Goodman Quartet's version of *Bei Mir Bist Du Schon* is rich and expressive.

In *Hello Mama*, redolent of vaudeville patter, George Jessell displays the kind of deadpan humor one rarely hears today. In *Roumania, Roumania*, a pre-Holocaust favorite, Aaron Lebedeff waxes sentimental.

For older listeners, *Shalom: Music of the Jewish People* brings back a flood of happy memories. For the uninitiated, it unveils uninhibited music that is normally heard only at festive occasions.

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Shaw's doctor play has satiric bite and a Jewish gent

The Lively ARTS

By FRANK RASKY

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, Ont. —

I regret to report that the first-week launch of the Shaw Festival's 30th season here was relatively lacklustre.

Only two of the five productions that opened seemed to me winners that would make your theatre-going trip to Niagara-on-the-Lake worthwhile. The other three I found dismally disappointing.

As usual, in the following minireviews, I list my selections in their ranking order.

* * *

Number one is **Bernard Shaw**'s 1906 indictment of the godlike vanity of the medical profession, *The Doctor's Dilemma*, staged with satiric bite by the Toronto Jewish director, **Paul Lampert**. I've chosen it to top my list for two reasons.

First, it remains a very funny, laugh-out-loud comedy, whose acerbic gibes at know-it-all physicians are still relevant today; and its Shavian plot twists, with a surprise ending, are quite ingenious. The doctor's dilemma in this case is a switch on the crowded lifeboat puzzle.

A pompous Harley Street specialist, who has discovered a cure for tuberculosis (seasoned actor **Michael Ball**) is smitten by a beautiful redhead (**Maggie Huculak**). He must decide whether to save the life of a mediocre fellow medical practitioner or the beauty's ne'er-do-well, rascally husband who is considered by art experts to be a genius.

(You can guess where Shaw's own sympathies lay, because the vegetarian enemy of medical quacks once said before his death in 1950 at the age of 94: "The true artist will let his wife starve; his children go barefoot; his mother drudge for his living at 70, sooner than work at anything but his art.")

My second reason for picking this comedy is that GBS has presented a very sympathetic portrait of a Jewish doctor. The character named Dr. Leo Schutzmacher (ably played by Shaw Festival veteran **Jack Medley**) is described in the playwright's stage directions as a "handsome, gentlemanly Jew . . . of soft manners and responsive kindliness." He is the only doctor in the cast who wisely refuses to be cheated by the sponging artist.

"When an Englishman borrows money, he'll sign anything to get it, without intending to carry out the agreement if it turns out badly for him," says Schutzmacher. "In fact, he thinks you a cad if you ask him to carry it out under such circumstances. Just like *The Merchant of Venice*, you know. But if a Jew makes an agreement, he means to keep it and expects you to keep it."

* * *

"Prithee, Sire" and "Gadzooks!" are neatly merged with "Hubba! Hubba! Hubba!" and other jitterbug jive talk of the 1940s in my number two selection, *A Connecticut Yankee*.

Borrowed from the plot of **Mark Twain's** tale, *A Connecticut Yankee In King Arthur's Court*, it's the slaphappy musical that was created in 1927 and then updated in 1943 by a trio of Jewish Broadway hipsters, composer **Richard Rodgers**, lyricist **Lorenz Hart** and book-writer **Herbert Fields**. And by coincidence, it has been staged in this frolicsome revival by a young and merry Canadian Jewish director named **Tom Diamond**, who is a look-alike for comedian **Billy Crystal**.

Outstanding in the cast are two clowns who've starred in the Stratford Festival's Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. They are **Richard McMillan**, playing a wise-cracking naval lieutenant who is conked on the head with a bottle of booze by his aggressive sweetheart, **Karen Skidmore**, when she discovers him with an old flame on his lap at their pre-wedding party. Transported in his woozy coma to Camelot, he discovers his fiancee transformed into a witchy villainess; she is at her most hilarious in the show-stopper tune, *To Keep My Love Alive*, brandishing a whip and armored breastplates, bragging how she fiendishly bumped off her various husbands when they became bores.

The hero of the show is the late lyricist Larry Hart, equalled for his brilliant rhyme schemes only by **Cole Porter** and **Stephen Sondheim**. Typical of his Merlin-like wizardry with words was: "I'd go to hell for ya/ Or Philadelphia." And it was Hart who coined the tricky phrase, "An eyeful you'd die full of pleasure to meet."

My favorite of this musical's 13 songs sums up the show exquisitely, *Thou Swell, Thou Witty, Thou Grand*.

* * *

Lulu, which was publicly banned when the Viennese playwright **Frank Wedekind** wrote it almost 100 years ago, was supposed to be a tragedy about an archetypal demonic female who destroys both herself and the men she victimizes.

But **Christopher Newton**, artistic director of the Shaw Festival, plays it for laughs. In his hands, it is converted into an outrageous farce, more excessive than it is sexy. And in the title role, **Helen Taylor** is far from being the vampy femme fatale, Lola, portrayed by **Marlene Dietrich** in director **Josef von Sternberg's** 1930 film, *Blue Angel*. Rather, the baby-faced Canadian actress is more like a bratty, pampered version of **Stanley Kubrick's** thimble-headed nymphet as portrayed by **Sue Lyon** in his 1962 film, *Lolita*.

This pouty, narcissistic Lulu is an amoral creature who bounces from bed to bed as though poised on a perpetual trampoline. She does so in a dark, smoky, Brechtian atmosphere which the English would probably call "naughty" but which struck me as being theatre of the absurd at its most nonsensical.

Lulu seems to be surrounded by a Freud casebook of cuckoo fetishists. A masochistic prince gets his kicks by smelling her stockings and kissing her shoes. A lesbian countess gets her jollies by licking the chaise lounge on which Lulu has slept. And in the very last scene of this repetitive morality tale, when Lulu has her throat slit in her whore's cheap hovel, Jack the Ripper demonstrates that he, too,

Jack Medley

is kinky by licking the blood off his knife.

On opening night, after leaving the theatre, I asked two white-haired female theatregoers from Ottawa what they thought of this supposedly shocking play. "Well, we certainly didn't learn anything new about sex," said one. And her 80-year-old companion complained, "What a waste of time and money to travel all the way from Ottawa to see this dull kind of stuff about a woman with no soul or personality."

* * *

Don't go to see **Noel Coward's** *This Happy Breed* expecting a sophisticated comedy from the Playboy Prince of Mayfair, who became one of the richest playwrights in the world by dealing with the elegant bon mots of the British champagne and caviar set.

This is a patriotic propaganda play that Coward wrote in 1939 on the eve of the outbreak of the Second World War. It's a soap-opera-style saga that chronicles highlights from the life of a so-called working-class family in South London during the two decades spanning the two wars.

The English-born Toronto director, **Susan Cox**, does her best to breathe dramatic life into this collection of stiff-upper-lip cliches about the "decency of the common man" written by that highly uncommon Tory toff, Noel Coward, who hadn't the foggiest notion about the economic ills of the average London working bloke.

Mum and Dad Ethel and Frank Gibbons are supposed to be having a rough time making ends meet during the Dirty Thirty Depression. Yet we learn from the dialogue that Frank, who works for a travel agency, manages to scrape by using the services of a full-time maid and a charlady who helps Ethel clean up the parlor just once a week.

The condescending pieties that Coward puts in the mouth of his spokesman Frank put me to sleep:

"The ordinary people like you and me know something better than all the fussy old politicians put together . . . We may not know it with our brains, but we know it with our roots . . . The trouble with the world is . . . there are too many ideas and too little horse sense."

I suggest that the Shaw Festival returns to reviving Sir Noel Coward's dotty comedies about the doings of the frivolous gentry in *Hay Fever, Private Lives* and *Design For Living*.

* * *

At the very bottom of my list is the revival of the 1925 **Ben Travers** comedy of manners, *A Cuckoo In The Nest*. Usually, the Shaw Festival artists are masters at staging knockabout, single-entendre, drop-the-pants boudoi farce. But despite the valiant work by Jewish director **Larry Dann** and seasoned farceurs **Barry MacGregor, Tony van Bridge, Simon Bradbury** and **Irene Hogan**, this Cuckoo lays a very bad egg.

The risque one-liner jokes about Victorian propriety are not merely lame; they're permanently crippled.

Michael Ball and Maggie Huculak co-star in Shaw's The Doctor's Dilemma.

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Arts

Orthodox Jew discovers parallels between religions at divinity school

Books

By BERNARD BASKIN

The Search for God at Harvard, by Ari L. Goldman (Random House, $26.50).

Is it possible to remain faithful to the truth and validity of one's own religion while seeking values, insights and spiritual meaning from others? What, if anything, can a young Orthodox Jew learn from the teachings of Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam?

These are some of the questions that Ari Goldman asked himself as he entered into a year of intensive study, in 1985, at Harvard Divinity School. A reporter on religious subjects for the New York Times, he chose to become a student so that he might emerge a more knowledgeable and proficient journalist.

Goldman, a graduate of Yeshiva University and an observant Jew — one of his major problems at the Times was to avoid working on Shabbat — entered Harvard with understandable trepidation. He began as a relatively detached observer, but soon found himself deeply involved as a seeker-participant.

This engaging account, part autobiography, part illuminating reportage, contains flashbacks from the author's earlier life and career. One dramatic event concerns a luncheon at New York's Saint Patrick's Cathedral to which, as a reporter, he was invited by John O'Connor, Archbishop of New York.

"When I entered the dining room, I could not believe my eyes. There, set out on the archbishop's table were plastic plates, knives and forks. On each plate was a leaf of lettuce topped with a freshly opened can of tuna fish. Matzoh crackers and parve margarine rounded out the meal. And the kosher food was not prepared just for me; the archbishop and his aides — three middle-aged priests — also ate kosher."

Unfortunately, the relationship between reporter and prelate soured as Goldman's reporting on O'Connor's activities were often less than enthusiastic.

Goldman found affinities and close parallels between Judaism and some aspects of Catholic communion, Buddhist meditation and strictly monotheistic Islam. For example, when a Moslem boy reaches the age of about four years, he is sent to school to recite his first verse of the Koran. "The verse is written in honey on a slate and, after the boy masters it, the honey is dissolved in water. The boy drinks the sweet holy words as a spiritual and physical nourishment."

This custom, of course, brings to mind the old Jewish tradition of placing honey on the opening page of the Book of Leviticus so that the young student will associate learning with sweetness.

When Goldman and his family moved from Manhattan and joined a suburban Westchester County synagogue, he found it religiously rigid and spiritually insensitive.

"Much like fundamentalist Christianity and Islam, Orthodox Judaism took a sharp turn to the right in the 1980s. Intolerance and witch hunting . . . have become standard religious practice. Diversity, tolerance and pluralism seem to have been banished from the religious vocabulary.

"Even the rabbis of my college years, who had preached the outward-looking Modern Orthodoxy, have moved one large step to the right. Instead of looking out to see how traditional Jewish practice could coexist and synthesize with the modern world, they increasingly look inward, mostly for validation from the right-wing elements of Orthodoxy."

Still a deeply committed Jew, Goldman left his year at Harvard with a newly awakened spirit of genuine broadmindedness. "The amazing dialogue that began at Harvard between the Judaism within me and other faiths I encountered continues at St. Paul Community Baptist Church in a black section of Brooklyn, at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Fifth Avenue, at a Reform temple in Cincinnati, at a Zen retreat centre in Los Angeles, at a Sunni mosque in Detroit."

This informative, honest, spiritually-challenging odyssey is warmly recommended.

East Meets West at benefit concert

TORONTO —

East will meet West as She'arim Hebrew Day School holds its annual benefit concert on June 18, at 8 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, 470 Glencairn Ave.

This year's program will feature the singing twosome of Avi Albrecht and Aron Bensoussan who will present a merger of voices in a program entitled East Meets West.

Albrecht's Ashkenazi musical background will blend with the exotic music of Bensoussan's Sephardi heritage to present what has been called by one reviewer as "an exciting unforgettable show.' Another declared that these two artists possess "two great voices with an extraordinary repertoire."

The program will also feature Russian baritone Leonid Karpinsky, and the Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Male Choir, directed by Charles Heller.

Aaron Bensoussan

Avraham Albrecht

She'arim Hebrew Day School was founded 10 years ago, to provide a special setting for children who had difficulties coping with a day school curriculum.

During its existence, She'arim has taught several hundred children, a number of whom have been mainstreamed back into regular classes. For others, She'arim has provided a supportive environment; the services of a psychologist, social worker, and art therapist; and a carefully tailored individual instructional program. Because of its approach to learning, and the strong encouragement it provides, She'arim has been successful in cultivating in its students a sense of self-worth and achievement.

Tickets for the concert are $15 or $25 for couples.

For tickets and further information call 633-8247.

Yiddish writer Miransky publishes volume of poetry

TORONTO —

The renowned Yiddish writer Peretz Miransky has just published his fifth volume of poems and fables in Yiddish, *A Zemer Fun Demer* or *Songs of Twilight*.

The ailing poet, 83, who is still recovering from heart bypass surgery, is one of two surviving members of the famous Young Vilna group of poets who included Chaim Grade. For his 1979 book *Tvishn Shmaychl un Trer* (*Between Smile and Tear*) Miransky received the J. I. Segal Literary Award.

In Canadian Jewish Anthology, editors Chaim Spilberg and Yaacov Zipper say of Miransky: "He strives for simplicity. This is particularly evident in his fables, but one can also find poetically veiled moods therein."

Information about his new book can be obtained from Mrs. Peretz Miransky, 1 Meadowbrook Rd., Apt. 3, Toronto, M6B 2S3, phone (416) 783-5919.

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By VIVIENNE MUHLING 422-2331

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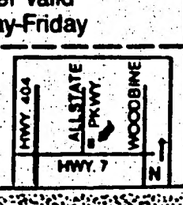

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Travel

TRAVEL TALK

By LEN BUTCHER

If you're a couch potato whose only exercise is pressing the numbers on your remote control, then maybe you should switch to another page, because most of the news this week is for those who are, or want to be, fit.

You know the type I mean. Those people you see jogging at the crack of dawn in rainbow-colored sweatsuits with an "I-haven't-had-a-bowel-movement-in-five-days" look on their faces. Are they happy, or what?

Anyway, there's a new facility in **Ainsworth Hot Springs, British Columbia** called **Mountain Trek Fitness Retreat and Health Spa,** owned and run by **Wendy Pope.**

If you don't know where **AHS** is, try southern **B.C.'s Kootenay Mountains.** If it's not there, head to the nearest town's ice cream parlor and have a banana split and write the whole thing off as a bad idea. No, no. I'm only kidding. I want you fit and this seems the place to do it.

The 34-acre property overlooks **Lake Kootenay** at **Ainsworth.** The main lodge has six single bedrooms all with private baths and on the second floor there are four double bedrooms, also each with private bathroom. An 1,800-square foot gym is adjacent and a medical team of two nurses and a doctor are on call 24 hours a day.

So what do you do there? Well, how about an invigorating hike through the pathways of **Kokanee Glacier Park** and other wilderness trails? But let's face it, you have to be in the right frame of mind for this and what better way than a daily yoga class. That's yoga, not yogurt, chubby!

Now you're ready for anything and you better be, because it's off to what's described as a dynamic aerobic class and a personalized circuit training program. Circuit training? What does that mean? Are you going to be fixing their fuse box? Am I that out of touch with the world of health?

Be that as it may, we now come to the good part. An open air hot tub and massage await you after your rugged day. Now that's living. So now you're ready for a meal that you can really sink your teeth into, right? Forget it.

In a diabolical plot not to let you slip into your old ways, the club offers a vegetarian diet designed to give high energy, encourage weight loss or maintenance and at the same time give you delicious food which is low in fats, cholesterol, sugar and sodium and caffeine free.

For a guy who is writing this column drinking a **Coke**, eating potato chips and warming up a pizza in the oven, this is not my idea of the kind of meal I'd die for.

But don't follow my example. For more info, call **Wendy Pope** at **Mountain Trek.** The number is (604)229-5636 and don't tell her I sent you. She'll never believe it.

* * * * *

Although I think **Pearson International Airport** is one of the worst airports in the world, I will pass along this bit of info that can help some of you: Since the opening of **Terminal 3, Air Canada** has introduced **Canada's** first **Customer Care Centre.**

You'll find it in the middle of **Terminal 2** and it offers assistance to passengers with special needs. For instance, disabled and elderly passengers, minors travelling alone (hopefully they'll check to make sure they're not runaways) and anyone needing help boarding.

* * * * *

Delectable Debbie, she of the **Israel Government Tourist Office** in **Toronto**, tells me that although **Israel** may not have many rivers, there are plenty of wadis and nahalim, which are dry river beds ands small streams.

She also tells me, and would I dare doubt her, that hiking through these is a favorite pastime of **Israel's** nature lovers. **Wadi Qelt** is perhaps the country's most popular wadi with hikers. Leading down from northern **Jersualem** to **Jericho, Wadi Qelt** has always been a retreat for hermits and monks. **St. George's Monastery** remains romantically tucked away behind palm trees in the middle of the wadi and the **Greek Orthodox** monastery is open to visitors.

Other favorite courses with hikers are **Nahal Zavitan** in the **Golan Heights** and **Nahal David** near **Ein Gedi** by the **Dead Sea,** which is popular for its large cave known as the **Lover's Cave.**

I've said it before and I'll say it again and I'm sure, again. **Israel** has something for everyone, so call your travel agent or give **DD** a call at **IGTO.** The main thing is to get to **Israel** this year.

Schwyz — birthplace of Swiss state

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Schwyz — sleepy and charming.

LUCERNE — They call it William Tell country, the picturesque region of central Switzerland where the Swiss Confederation was born 700 years ago.

In August of 1291, following an apparent incident in which the legendary patriot William Tell shot an apple off his son's head, the farmers in the cantons of Uri, Schwyz and Unterwalden banded together to defend themselves against the feudal rule of the House of Habsburg.

In a meadow overlooking Lake Lucerne, they pledged an oath of Eternal Alliance, swearing they would never again tolerate the presence of foreign rulers on their soil.

The Swiss federal state, with its 26 cantons, emerged from these humble and perhaps apocryphal events. Throughout 1991, a series of festivities will mark the seventh century of Swiss independence.

For a visitor, the gateway to William Tell country is the sophisticated lake-side city of Lucerne.

If you book passage on a paddle steamer of the Lake Lucerne Navigation Company, you can explore some of the most important places inextricably linked with Switzerland's odyssey to sovereignty.

Ruetli Meadow, a 450-metre high ridge looking down on the glassy expanse of Lake Lucerne, is the putative site of the emergence of the Swiss Confederation. There are no official markers, but in a rustic restaurant on the grounds, you'll find a framed copy of the historic 1291 pact as well as a bust of William Tell. Around a bend of the lake, a rough-hewn monument commemorates the German playwright, Friedrich von Schiller, who immortalized William Tell in a stirring play.

The Swiss Path, which wends its way 35 kilometres from the Ruetli Meadow to the resort town of Brunnen, was officially opened on May 4. Avid walkers will no doubt enjoy the alpine scenery: snow-clad mountain peaks, manicured meadows and forested hills dotted with typically Swiss chalets.

The quaint towns along the shores of the lake well worth visiting are Weggis, Hertenstein, Vitznau and Fluelen. They were made accessible to mass tourism in the 1880s with the construction of the north-south Zurich-to-Milan railroad across the formidable St. Gotthard Pass.

There are a number of excellent panoramic points in the Lake Lucerne region, but the finest are supposedly Rigi and Pilatus. Due to poor weather conditions, I was denied the pleasure of visiting them.

No excursion to William Tell country would be complete without a stopover in Schwyz, from which Switzerland borrows its name.

Set in a verdant valley hemmed in by the awesome Alps, Schwyz is a sleepy village of considerable charm that is the depository of the original documents of the Swiss Confederation.

The adjoining village of Ibach, a 10 minute's walk from Schwyz's main square, is the home of the world famous Swiss Army Officer's Knife, manufactured by the Victorinox company.

Tours of the plant can be arranged by request if you write in advance of your visit.

* * *

For further information, contact the Swiss National Tourist Office in Toronto. (971-9734).

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Business Outlook

BUSINESS HONOREE

These gentlemen spoke at a recent State of Israel Bonds reception held to honor Robert Eli Rubinstein (centre), partner of H & R Developments. Israel Means Business is the name of the 1991 National Leadership Campaign that recognizes new leaders in the community who have demonstrated their commitment to Israel through direct investment or active trade.

Currently, Rubinstein is involved in two joint ventures with Israel. The first project is the construction of a 150-suite luxury condominium building in Tel Aviv, and the second is the erection of a 756-unit residential sub-division in Ra'Anana. Three-quarters of this unit will be reserved for rental. Rubinstein was presented with a $2,000 note that is to be donated to a charity of his choice.

Pictured here, (left to right) are Alex Grossman, Vice-President of Canada Israel Securities, Newton Glassman, Israel Means Business campaign co-chairman, Robert Eli Rubinstein, Israel Means Business Honoree, Leon Koffler, Israel Means Business Honoree, and Fred Guth, reception chairman. Absent from the picture are Paul Lowenstein and David Baskin, Israel Means Business Honorees. Both Meir Buber, the Israeli Trade Commissioner for the United States and Benjamin Noy, the Consul for Economic Affairs and Trade Commissioner for Canada spoke at the reception. (Arnold Machtinger photo).

Toronto company receives international acclaim

TORONTO — Strategic Objectives Inc., a Toronto public relations firm headed by partners Judy Cosman and Deborah Weinstein, has struck gold. Last month the company was honored with three top awards from the International Public Relations Association (IPRA) at the Golden World Awards Ceremony Luncheon, at The Royal York Hotel.

Strategic Objectives received the prestigious Golden World Trophy, for its 1990 total communications campaign for The Body Shop Canada. It will be the only Golden World Trophy awarded to a Canadian company.

Strategic Objectives also won two certificates of merit — one for its Project Environment campaign for the Canadian Gas Association (CGA), and the other for excellence in marketing communications for the Ontario Natural Gas Association (ONGA).

Judy Cosman (left) and Deborah Weinstein of Strategic Objectives receive the top P.R. award.

The IRPA is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, with offices around the world. The Golden World Awards Ceremony took place during IPRA's first international conference in Toronto. More than 1,500 delegates from at least 50 countries attended. Golden World award-winning campaigns were assessed by a panel of international judges who looked for excellence in results-driven public relations programming.

Strategic Objectives' campaign for The Body Shop Canada focused on raising positive, national public awareness of The Body Shop's products and philosophies, and on garnering widespread support for its many environmental and social causes.

The campaign generated editorial coverage and contributed to the success of Body Shop fund-raising efforts on behalf of the Kenya Wildlife Fund, the World Wildlife Fund, and other non-profit environmental programs.

CGA's Project Environment campaign, which is currently in its second year, was launched to increase public and government awareness of natural gas and its many environmental and economic benefits to residential, commercial and industrial users. The campaign generated positive media coverage of natural gas, and was acknowledged by federal and provincial politicians and environmental groups.

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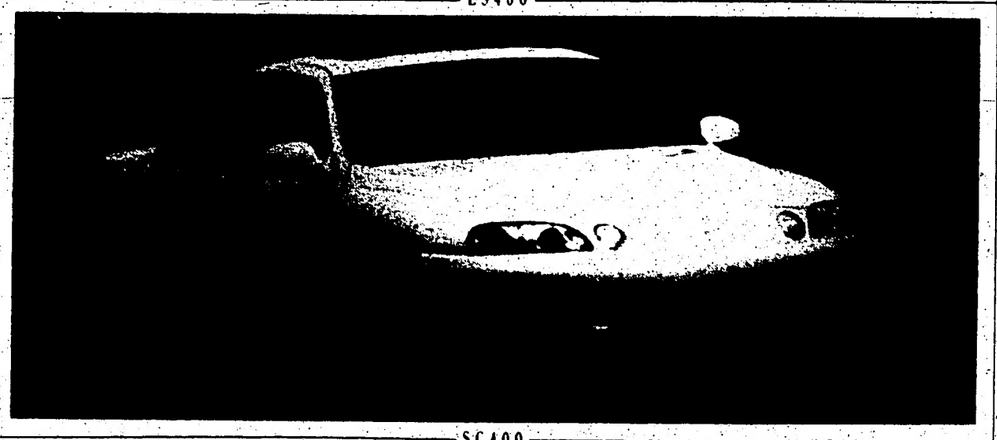

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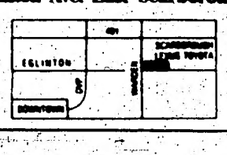

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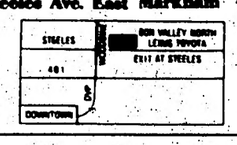


Business Outlook

Israeli-developed medical items crack the market

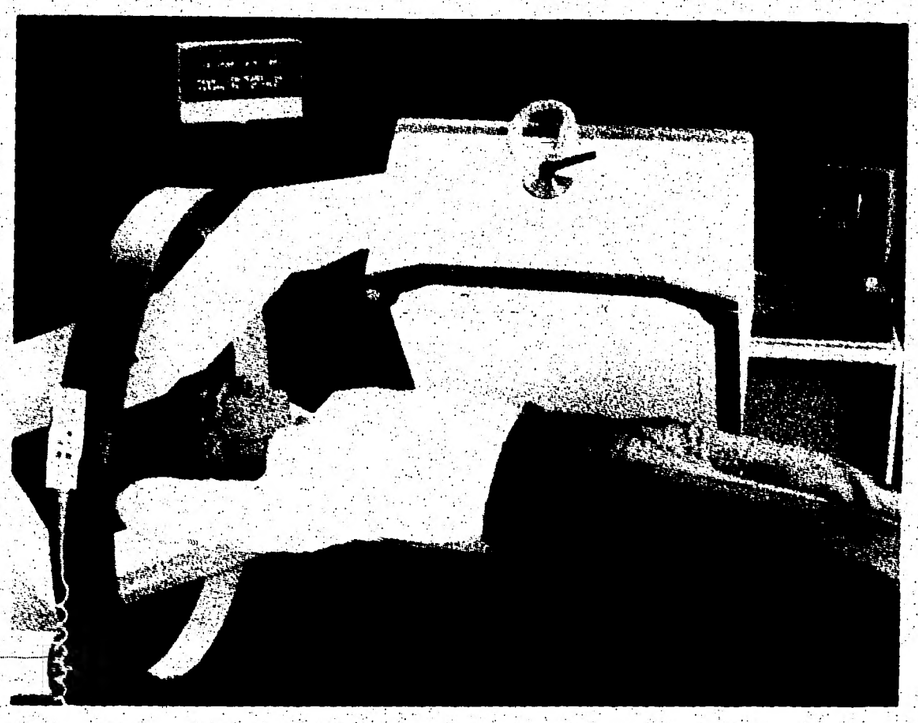
By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO — Picture yourself in the tiny Northwestern Ontario community of Sioux Lookout and suddenly in need of an examination for a medical condition that is causing you grief.

Miles from major hospitals in Winnipeg or Thunder Bay, the sophistication of the diagnosis may concern you, until you cast your gaze on the technologically advanced equipment being used, which bears the name, Elscint.

From Sioux Lookout to Prince George, B.C. to hospitals and clinics in larger centres, Elscint Canada's Israeli-developed products have cracked the market in the highly competitive world of medical diagnostic tools.

Kenneth Giles, Elscint's CEO since its inception in Canada in 1981, takes pride in the strides the company has made. Already, it is the industry leader in nuclear medicine equipment, which integrates nuclear cameras and computer processing to analyse cardiac conditions, perform liver examinations and do brain imaging.



The new APEX SP-6 nuclear medicine imager was introduced in 1989.

Elscint Canada now supplies about 70 per cent of the Canadian market, Giles said. The equipment can be found in most of the major hospitals in Toronto, as well as in medical facilities across the country.

Elscint rode the wave supplied by its nuclear medicine diagnostic equipment to projected sales this year of $15 million, down from previous years due to the recession. But the company is "booked to capacity for the next two years," said Giles.

It was primarily through nuclear medicine diagnostics that Elscint gained access to the Canadian market, dominated 10 years ago by larger corporations like GE and Picker International.

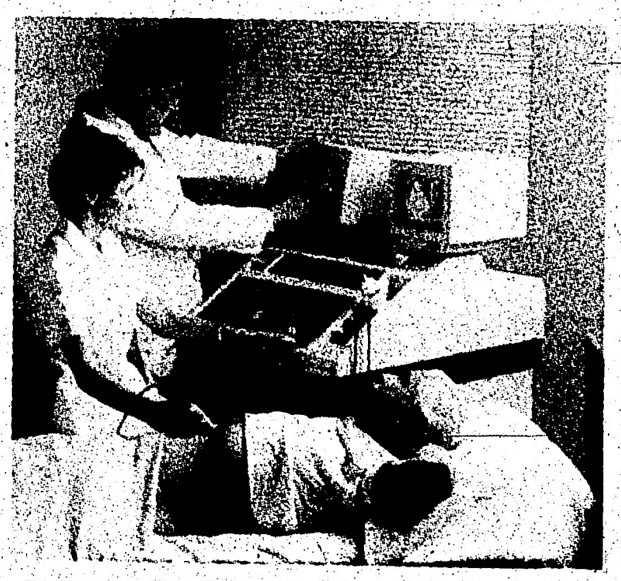
"In this business, you have to establish credibility," Giles said. "Even today, by corporate standards, we're a small company. So you have to have something that's superior. My belief at the time was that if you try to impress customers that we're superior in every target line, even if true, we'd fail.

"So we targeted nuclear medicine and set about seeing how far we could take that product in Canada."

Giles believes the success of the nuclear medicine equipment can be attributed to several factors, chief among them is the high quality it offers.

Research and development is the name of the game in high-end diagnostic machinery, he said, adding that Israel has an overabundance of scientists working in the field. The Elron group of companies, ultimately Elscint's Israel-based owners, devotes large amounts of cash to R&D, Giles said.

"Technologically, we're in the forefront of all companies," especially in three-dimensional imaging technology, he added.



The Elscint company's ultrasound equipment is being used in this patient's abdominal examination.

With inroads into the Canadian market created by the effective nuclear medicine machinery, Elscint later introduced its CT scanners, used to create 3D images of the head, spine and abdomen.

Elscint has placed about 15 of the units in Canadian hospitals and clinics.

The recession has slowed down the anticipated sales of other equipment Elscint carries, such as magnetic resonance scanners and ultrasound equipment.

With hospitals short on capital for purchases, Elscint has turned to leasing as an alternative to introducing the equipment.

But Giles is content with the progress the newcomer company has made in 10 short years, in effect, catching the major players, and overtaking them in some areas.

Hothouse project near completion

By
ALISA ODENHEIMER

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — "Hothouses" designed for the development of marketable techno-scientific ideas, may soon spring to life nationwide, Chief Scientist Yigal Ehrlich says.

A government plan to establish research-and-development hothouses is nearing implementation, he said last week.

The project is intended to nurture the development of ideas for the invention or improvement of products that can be sold abroad, or can serve as a substitute for goods that are currently imported. It is also aimed at providing job opportunities for scientists, including new immigrants.

The state would pick up the tab for operating expenses and the host institution, which would supervise activities, would be entitled to part of any eventual profit.

Ehrlich explained that each hothouse will be under the administration of public body — such as a university, research institute or local council — and may include the participation of a company as well. The administrators will be asked to organize as a non-profit organization.

The administrators will be responsible for seeking project ideas, finding the scientists to implement them and helping the projects along, including drawing up a business plan, bringing in legal counsel, and helping to raise capital, if needed.

In return, the administrators will receive a percentage of the rights to future profits from the items. Each "hothouse" will house a minimum of 10 projects, and each project will be a separate legal entity.

Current expenses, such as salaries for the scientists and support staff, will be covered by the government. Preference will be given to administrators that will be able to provide a building to house the research. Under no circumstances will the government put up funds for building or remodelling.

Ehrlich says that he has already received six applications from potential administrators interested in establishing a scientific hothouse, including one from Yeda Research and Development Co., which is connected with the Weizmann Institute, in conjuction with the Africa-Israel Corp.

Another has been received from the Technion, in conjunction with one of the local councils.

The chief scientist says that the government will not interfere in the selection of projects, but reserves the right to veto any project deemed inappropriate.

The projects must meet the following criteria:

- The project deals with the development of a new item or the improvement of an already existing item. The item is designated for export, or it can replace one that is currently imported.
- The project must be innovative, or be based on advanced technology.
- The project has undergone a test that shows that it will be successful in the market.

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Business Outlook

Manuals promote business to Israel

MILWAUKEE — Two new manuals designed to help accountants and lawyers advise their corporate clients on doing business in Israel are now available from the Committee for Economic Growth of Israel (CEG-I).

One publication, titled *11 Ways Accountants and Lawyers Can Assist their Clients to Successfully Do Business in Israel*, outlines and analyses Israeli laws and regulations governing foreign investment in the Jewish state. The 27-page manual also provides practical suggestions for maximizing profitability through investment in Israel.

A second manual, *Can You Make a Fair Return on Your Investment When You Operate a Factory in Israel?* cites the operational experience of Israeli and American companies with manufacturing or research facilities in that country.

Both were written by Elmer L. Winter, chairman of CEG-I, and published by the committee, a non-profit organization of American business leaders, whose objective is to expand business and trade relations between the United States and Israel.

A key section of the first manual deals with duty-free export of American goods to Europe via Israel. Noting that Israel is the only country that has free trade agreements with both the United States and the European Economic Community, the publication explains how American companies can reduce the cost of their exports to EEC nations by as much as 25 per cent by taking advantage of Israel's preferred trading status.

Income tax incentives

The second manual, which discusses the profit levels companies may expect from their Israeli investments, notes that some 150 American companies — including major corporations like Intel, National Semiconductor and Motorola — now maintain facilities in Israel. Analysing actual business situations, the 17-page publication notes that tax incentives and research and development subsidies by the Israeli government often make it possible for investing companies to realize net profits twice as great as would be possible in the United States on an equal volume of gross sales.

Accountants and lawyers would be performing a valuable service for their clients as well as for the State of Israel by explaining the advantages of doing business there, according to Winter, co-founder of Manpower, Inc.

Copies of both publications may be obtained by writing or calling CEG-I 5301 North Ironwood Road, Milwaukee, Wis. 53217, (414) 961-1000.

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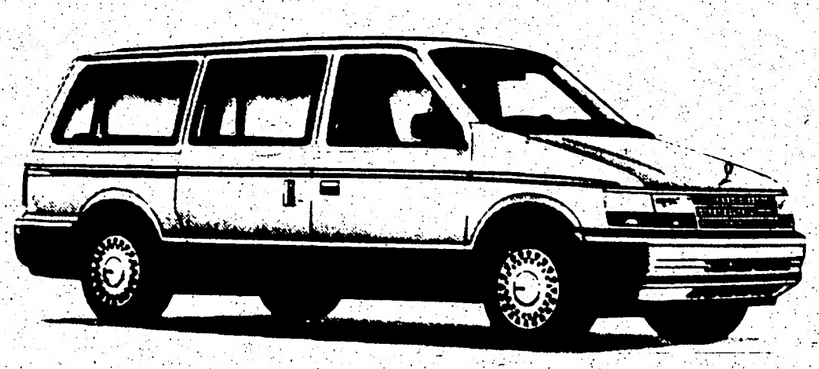
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$1,050,000. 6 lots. Combine 121'x298' for mini subdivision or will build individual custom home to suit.

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$618,900 Steps to Synagogues in Thornhill; 7 bdrms on upper Level; 5 Bathrms; 2 Staircases; Spectacular Kitchen. Don't Miss this One!

ELEGANCE AT ITS BEST! SPRING GATE BLVD
$599,900 Custom blt 5 Bdr SOLD l Sylvan Setting; Professionally decorated; Walking distance to Shul.

JUST LISTED! OUT OF THE ORDINARY!
$359,000 Fabulous 4 Bdrm Thornhill home; 2 Years New: Huge White Kitchen; Strip Oak Flrs; Walking distance to all amenities.

A GREAT PLACE TO BEGIN
$244,750 Starter Thornhill home. Walk to all amenities! 3 bdrm; fantastic size lot! Try an Offer.

94 TANGRE SOLD E $479,900
Gourmet Kitchen; 4 Bdrm; Study & Den; Finished Lower Level.

371 YORK H SOLD — $339,000
4 Bdrm; Spiral Staircase; & Grey Decor

15 JENSTAR SOLD $339,900
A Touch of Class. 3 Bdrm; eplace; Incredible Kitchen; Double Car Garage.

342 MUI SOLD 89,900
4 Bdrm; Contemporary Flr & Wet Bar on finished Lower Level.

SOUTH

497 DOUGL SOLD UE $599,000
Spectacular 5 Bdrm; Mar Skylite; Glass Block Atrium.

88 HILLMOU SOLD UE $369,000
Fabulous Bungalow on Gi Lot. Won't Last.

FOREST HILL VILLAGE 2-LEV. TH
$329,000 Steps to Spadina/University Subway! 2 Bdrm; 2&1/2 Baths; 2-Car Pk; Priv. Crtyard; Great Facilities. View & Make an Offer!

Contact
ESTHER BLUSTEIN
485-2333 (Bus.); 881-3947 (Res)
KINGSWAY NATIONAL RE LTD. RLTR
The Sign of Distinction

REAL ESTATE

1 Houses For Sale

TAL-RAM

789-4325

OLD FOREST HILL ROAD
132 x 210 FT. LOT
Stone Mansion. Only once in many years has a property of this magnitude been offered. A magnificent baronial grand residence. Once you are in the ballroom-sized reception hall you will believe you are in a country estate in England. Priced at $3,550,000. Reserved appointments only. Exclusive with Rena or Barry Tsur.

LOWER VILLAGE
Best block on Dunvegan. Gorgeous Lot. A superb property w/entertaining-size entrance hall, fam. rm. on main, master ste. w/marble bath. & sep. dressing rm. Asking $1,900,000. Hanya Kay or Rena Tsur.

FRYBROOK/B.S.S.
Superb location, remarkable lot (50x194) - a home with all ingredients present. Totally renovated, family rm on main, library on landing, 6 bdrms, marble baths, huge principal rooms, a great buy at $1,375,000. Barry Tsur.

DUNVEGAN ROAD
$1,150,000. Situated on 50 x 158 ft. lot, this 3 storey home has 5 bdrms, ensuite, white kitchen and walkout at lower level to pool at rear of garden. Ramon Tsur.

LOWER VILLAGE
$799,000. This outstanding, totally renov. 2-stry. 4-bdrm. home features fam. rm., powder rm. & laund. on main; master ens. The finest value around, overlooking park. Rena or Barry Tsur, 789-4325.

LADYSLIPPER COURT
3 floors of spacious living. 5 bdrms. & 5 baths. Marbled, mirrored entr.; spiral staircase; skylights; indoor marble gdn.; potlights, Jacuzzi, kidney-shaped pool & much more. Barbara Caplan 789-4325.

FOR A 1ST-TIME BUYER
Fabulous "yuppie" semi in prime location. Front pad pkg., 3 bdrms., fin. bsmt.; etc. A must to see, $234,900 or best offer! Faithe Sversky.

CUSTOM BUILT
Spring Gate Blvd. Builder's own home, approx. 4,000 sq. ft. + fully fin. lower level. 4 bdrms., 5 baths, gourmet kit., fam. rm., lib., etc. All the bells & whistles - your dream come true. $682,000. Janice Fox.

TEEFY AVENUE
Fabulous builder's home on large lot, magnificent entry hall & much, much more. Susan Teplitsky, 789-4325.

BATHURST-LAWRENCE
Newly reno. ofc. space w/2 private offices & lge. open work area. Corner unit w/lots of natural light. A steal at $800/mo. Faithe Sversky.

HI-TECH STARTER
Dell Paark. 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, brand new kitchen, finished basement, loaded with extras on 50 ft lot. $349,000 Jack Samuel.

BOWMAN WAY- 1ST AD
Bayview/John. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, finished basement, condo/townhouse. Best location in complex. Baxk yard open to park. $176,000. Jack Samuel.

WOODLAND ACRES ESTATE
This very spacious 4-bdrm. home is situated on 1.08 A. in a very prestigious location, only ½-hr. drive from downtown. $875,000. David Kamil.

Canada Trust Realty

THORNHILL CHARM!!
$429,000 Parklike gardens, this gracious home shows to perfection. Sun room with picture window, living & dining rooms, hardwood floors, kitchen a joy, this home a must. Joan E. Landy* 222,9707.

BATHURST-GLENCAIRN
Choice of lot & new home, 3 bdrm 2 storey immac - 40x140 lot, walk to subway, from $355,000 - 4,000 sq. ft. new home, fin. bsmt, walk to park, school, syangogue, 2,800 sq. ft., lux. 4 bdrm + den. D. Abraham, Sales Rep. 783-3333.

FINCH/BATHURST, CONDO
$295,000 - Abt. 1,550 sf., bright corner immac - 40x140 lot, walk to subway, from $355,000 - 4,000 sq. ft. new home, fin. bsmt, walk to park, school, synagogue, 2,800 sq. ft., lux. 4 bdrm + den. D. Abraham, Sales Rep. 783-3333.

FINCH/BATHURST, CONDO
$295,000 - Abt. 1,550 sf., bright corner 2 bdrm apt, custom contemporary remodelled & upgraded, huge square rms, lr ? dr open concept, white space kit w/o balc, sec sys + guard, all facil, location, top materials. Z. Kovarsky 222-9707.

3000 BATHURST HIGH FL.
$239,000 2 bdrm + ensuite, solarium, eat-in kit, ldry rm, lux. condo, 24 hr security, parking, sabbath elevator, 5 appliances, conv. shops, heart of city, here is the one you're waiting for. Sylvia Banack, Sales Rep. 783-3333.

GLENCAIRN-SUBWAY—
$128,500 From to $169,000 Choice of one - two - three bdrm, fabulous view, pool, sauna, exercise rm, new kit, bath - laund. enst, 3 bdrm + 3 pc. enst. - Call for details re 360 Ridelle & 155 Marlee - D. Abraham, Sales Rep. 783-3333.

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED/REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
$279,000 Ideal starter. 6 rms. 3 bdrm. 2 bath. All good size rooms, fin. bsmnt., gar.

PROMENADE MALL AREA
$328,900 4 bdrm. 4 bath. Liv. & din. comb., fam. rm. W/o, fin. bsmnt. Private entrance, dbl. gar.

ATKINSON-BATHURST
4 bdrm. 3 bath, huge liv. & din. Den, fam. rm. W/o's, circ. stairway. Dbl. gar.

BATHURST-CLARK
Custom finish. 5 bdrm. 6 bath. Liv. & din. comb., fam. size kit. Built in appl. Fin. bsmnt. Don't miss.

CLANTON PARK AREA
Quality built. 5 bdrm. 4 bath. Large kit., fam. rm. W/o, steps to all.
A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

201 HADDINGTON
Beautiful 3 bedroom bungalow, desirable location, steps to synagog. Owner leaving country - asking $329,000.00. Call immediately !!!
LARRY ROTHAM
665-7888
W. LERMAN REAL ESTATE LIMITED

***BATHURST-SHEPPARD**
Ravine, 3 bdrms, prime location. Magnificent view. Fin. bsmt. Won't last! 731-3433.
HOMELIFE CENTRAL REALTY RLTR

ALAN UNGERMAN
REALTY LIMITED REALTOR
731-7111

BATHURST-STEELES — SUPREME LIVING
3 bdrm., fam. rm., firepl., fin. bsmnt., dble. gar. Dillon Jones, 731-7111.

BATHURST-CLARK — QUIET COURT
Gorgeous 3 bdrm., mn. flr. laundry, fabulous kitch., quiet court, Sharon Balaban, 731-7111.

BATHURST-YORK HILL — A SIZZLING BUY!
4 bdrm., fin. bsmnt., dbl. gar., extras. $299,000. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

BATHURST-YORK HILL — 4 BD. CENTRE HALL
Ceramics, circ. stairs, hardwd., cathedral ceiling. $314,000. Bella Beer, 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — ACCENT ON VALUE!
4 Bd., mn. flr., laundry, dbl. gar. $279,000. Fran Kieselstein, 731-7111.

BATHURST-YORK HILL — NEAR ALL AMENITIES
3 bdrm., fam. rm., firepl., air, $249,900. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

CHABAD GATE — 4 + 1 BDRM. TOWNHOUSE
Spacious freehold, kosher kitch., parquet flrs., Michelle Kahn, 731-7111.

BATHURST-CENTRE — EXECUTIVE TOWNHOME
Immaculate 3 bdrm., marble foyer, 5 appls., $234,900. Ellen Fisher, 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — TOWNHOUSE GEM
Immaculate 3 bdrm., firepl., $217,900. Lucy Melamud, 731-7111.

BATHURST-DREWRY — 4 BDRM. BACKSPLIT
Super lot., fin. bsmnt., cathedral foyer, $389,900. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

BATHURST-LAWRENCE — GREAT STARTER — $248,800
Bright, charming bung., fin. bsmnt., lg. lot. Michielle Kahn, 731-7111.

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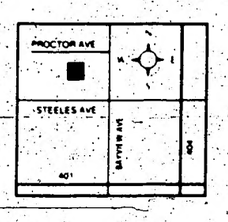
by Heritage Club Estate Homes

Bayview Forest Estates, a custom collection of prestigious new design releases. These homes are a superlative example of style and craftsmanship, all nestled in a 9 lot wooded enclave. Bayview Forest Lane by Heritage Club Homes could be yours. Visit the sales centre this weekend and become a part of the experience.



4000 sq. ft. and up from 999,000 **Tel - 887-1015**

ROYAL LEPAGE
It's you that counts the most.

***BATHURST & DREWRY**
Gorgeous large 4 bdrm backsplit on child safe court. Beautiful landscaped large backyard 169' deep x 82' wide at rear. 3 washrooms, central air. All appliances + much more. Reduced for quick sale! $368,000 *Nat Stark 665-5775 or 886-4930.

HILLHURST/ALEXANDRA WOOD
$779,999 4 bdrm centre hall new decor. Large pool. J. Fingerer* 256-1388.

REDUCED!! RAVINE AT KIMBARK!
$699K 4 bdrm + den 248' lot, magnificent vistas. J. Fingerer* 256-1388.

CLANTON PARK — GREAT VALUE
$319K Oversized 3 bdrm bung on 50' x 150' lot. Fab. in-law suite. Hrdwd floors. Huge kit. Fab. st. Liz Gordon* 256-1388.

*Sales Representative
ROYAL LEPAGE REAL ESTATE SERVICES LTD. REALTOR

Safeguard
Real Estate Limited Realtor

BAYVIEW/ #1 EXEC.
$399,000, mn. fl. fam. rm. & library. Outstanding kit. Fully loaded! *Helen Gould, 886-1200.

A CHARMER $269,900
3 bd., 3 baths in this "like new" North York home. Close to TTC & shops. Call now! *Helen Gould, 886-1200 (on page) or 633-5332.

SKYMARK DR. #85 "CLASSIC"
"Empress Model" 1,964 sq. ft., + 117 sq. ft. terrace. 2 bdrm., 3 baths, prof. decorated. *E. Goldman, 731-0509, 731-2600.

Asterisk * indicates Sales Representative

Signature
Realty Limited

RENTAL — YONGE & CLARKE
Large luxury townhome easy access to subway. 3 bedroom - Eat-in kitchen, main floor family rm, laundry rm & washroom just off main floor. Possession July 1st - Asking $1,750. Call Ken Vegotsky, Sales Representative 730-1077.

H-U-G-E THORNHILL LOT
With renovated bungalow 160-foot frontage with a depth of 300 feet. Asking $899,000 Call Ken Vegotsky, Sales Representative 730-1077.

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

ARNOLD & THORNRIDGE SACRIFICE AT $999,000!
Magnificent 5 bdrm home on huge 100 x 250 lot, fully customized, built-ins & more. Allen Sidofsky 764-7200.

401-AVENUE ROAD — SANDRINGHAM — BRAND NEW HOME
50' front, fin. bsmt with self-cont. nanny's quarters, 2 marble fp's, custom gourmet kit, granite counters, sunken fam rm, whirlpool, sauna, skylights, 6 baths, huge foyer, library, choose finishings, $889,000. Marlon or Clara Green 764-7200.

BATHURST-YORK DOWNS
CUSTOM 5+2 BDROOMS, 4,100 SQ. FT.
2 kits, bsmt apt, 6 baths, fam. rm & library, granite & marble throughout, 50' front, huge principal rooms, asking $669,000. Marlon or Clara Green 764-7200.

PRIME UPPER VILLAGE 4 BEDROOM, $659,900!
Centre hall, main fl. den & w/o to gdn, cent. air, 2½ baths, dble garage, 5 appls, separate entry to bsmt. Ellie Parker 764-7200.

SPRING FARM — BEST VALUE FOR CUSTOM HOME
Only a hop, skip & jump from shul, 4 bdrms, 3,800 sq. ft., fin. bsmt, large lot. Allen Sidofsky 764-7200.

BATHURST-STEELES — JUST LISTED
5 bdrm, formal dining rm, very spacious, backs onto ravine. Mary Fenyes 764-7200.

CUSTOM RICHMOND HILL HOME
4 bdrms, 3 baths, 2 fireplace, hardwood fls, interlock. Alona Zavet 764-7200.

BATHURST MANOR — 4 BEDROOM BACKSPLIT
Lovely home on huge lot, loaded! Shelly Teichberg 764-7200.

BAYVIEW-JOHN $359,900 — ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS!
55 x 110 lot, totally renovated, black/white decor, Jacuzzi, self-contained bsmt. apt. with side entrance. Marlon or Clara Green 764-7200.

BATHURST-CLARK $349,900 — FIRST AD!
4 bdrms, dble garage, grey/white decor, approx 2,400 sq. ft., minutes to shul. Neil Bocknek 764-7200.

BATHURST-LAWRENCE — BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME!
2 bdrm bungalow/in-law suite + sep. entrance. Helen Winer 764-7200.

BATHURST-CLARK REDUCED — OPEN SUNDAYS 2-5 PM
82 Brickstone, 4 bdrm, fam rm, ceramics, oak circular staircase, skylight, beautiful condition. Paul Pister 764-7200.

DETACHED BUNGALOW STEPS TO EARL BALES PARK
ONLY $259,900
3 bdrms on main level, sep. side entry to potential bsmt apt, appls, 60' front, near TTC, synagogue, etc. Super buy! Shelly Teichberg 764-7200.

BATHURST-CLARK — VENDOR MUST SELL!
Sscrifice at $264,900. Family room, 3 bdrms, direct entry to bsmt, loaded. Allen Sidofsky 764-7200.

BATHURST & CLARK 2 HOMES NEXT TO SHUL
Both 3 bdrms, $235,000 - $274,900, fin. bsmt, appliances, air. We timed it — only 33 seconds to shul! Allen Sidofsky 764-7200.

BATHURST-WILSON AREA ONLY $274,500
Det. home, 150' deep lot, fin. bsmt, walk to subway & shops. Mary Fenyes 764-7200.

BATHURST-FINCH SEMI!
In-law apt, 3 bdrms, 4 baths, appliances. Rita Krasnov 764-7200.

BATHURST-CENTRE 1ST AD — LARGE 3 BEDROOM HOME
Family room & fin. bsmt, backs onto park, asking $269,900. Mark McKaig 764-7200.

CLARK-BATHURST — MORE FOR YOUR $$$
Spacious Hollywood kit, bonus cupboards, fam rm, f.p, king size master + ensuite, low $200K, Glenna Bornstein 764-7200.

BATHURST-STEELES VERY MOTIVATED VENDOR
Magnificent 5 bdrm, loaded to the tee! Open concept. Al Sidofsky 764-7200.

CONDO APARTMENTS & TOWNHOUSES

BATHURST-STEELES BEAUTY — MOVE IN CONDITION
2 bdrm, 2 baths, marble foyer, upgrades, south exposure. P. Dennis 764-7200.

BATHURST-STEELES 3 BEDROOM TOWNHOME
Highly upgraded 3 bdrm, prime area, must be seen! Shelly Halpern 764-7200.

"PRIMROSE" 1ST AD, CORNER UNIT, $199,000
IMMACULATE!
Best value! Tandem parking, 2 bdrms, 2 baths + more. L. Yakobson 764-7200.

DON MILLS-STEELES —
JUST REDUCED — LOWEST IN AREA!
6 room T.H., fin. bsmt, air, eat-in kit. $174,900! Sarah Rovet 764-7200.

BATHURST-WILSON
ONLY $159,000 — LARGE 2 BEDROOM CONDO.
2 bdrms & den, 5 appls. close to shops, one bus to subway, M. Fenyes 764-7200.

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1 Houses For Sale

FOX

VIEWMOUNT
Reduced 100,000! Custom built spacious side-split on huge 66 x 140 Ft. lot only $599,000. Anxious Vendor! D. Eichorn 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
New Listing! 4 Bdrm + Fam Rm. Den, modern Kit. 69 Ft. Front. $469,000 D. Eichorn 787-1712.

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BATHURST/FRONTENAC
Reduced 40,000! 3 Bdrm side-split! Shows Well! $389,000 D. Eichorn 787-1712.

• • •

GLENPARK
Reduced 50,000! 4 Bdrm, fam rm, hdwd floors upstairs. Huge mod. kit. $549,000 D. Eichorn 787-1712.

JOSEPH FOX REAL ESTATE LIMITED

2 Houses For Sale Private

Bathurst/Steeles - Corner lot. Fully landscaped with interlocking brick. 3 spacious bedrooms. Large closets. 2nd floor laundry. 3 bathrooms. Main floor family room. Bright kitchen. Broadloom. Central air/vac. Close to TTC, schools, shopping. 738-8717. 5404

Bathurst/Sheppard - 3 bedrooms plus family room. Completely renovated. Model kitchen. Finished basement. Cul-de-sac. Motivated vendor. $329,000. No agents. 630-9846. 5261

97 Millcroft Way. $295K. White/ Grey/ Black decor. Ceramics/ upgrades, etc. Appointments. 731-4878. 3% to selling agents. 5390

3 Houses For Rent

Bathurst/Clark - Large 4 bedroom home. Mid-June to mid-August. Close to all amenities. 731-1061. 5150

London Ont. Townhouse. 4 bedrooms. Close to Western and shopping mall. 630-1795. 5359

Bathurst/Clark - Stunning 5 bedrooms, 4 washrooms. Cathedral entrance. 3 walk-in closets. Burglar alarm. Promenade mall, schools, synagogue, park, tennis. 738-5978, 731-2136. 5313

Yonge/Clarke - Luxury 3 bedroom townhome. 1,800s.f. Air. Jacuzzi. Steps to synagogue, TTC. Available August 1st. 764-0829. 5430

6 Condominiums For Sale

• **PROMENADE.** 2 bd., 1,350 sq. ft. $185,900. B. Beer, 731-7111.
• **7805 BAYVIEW.** LANDMARK. 2 bd. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.
• **7601 BATHURST.** 2 bd. $199,900. Lucy Melamud, 731-7111.
• **7601 BATHURST.** 1 Bd., $149,000. F. Kieselstein, 731-7111.
• **135 ANTIBES.** 1 bd., balc. $139,900. Perry Waisglass, 731-7111.
• **100 ANTIBES.** 3 bd., solar., $194,000. Steve Kruger. 731-7111.
UNGERMAN RLTY. RLTR.

BATHURST/CENTRE
2 bdrm lux for only $189,000. Approx. 1,300 sq. ft. hardwd flrs, 5 appls, outstanding decor, 2 car parking. Ron Klein 222-8600.
RE/MAX REALTRON REALTY INC.

Conservatory. Clark/Hilda. 1 bedroom, $159,000. 2 bedroom, 1,200s.f. 2 parking, $199,000. 764-3869. 5122

3555 Bathurst - 2nd floor. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom. $185,000. Days 638-9653, evenings 256-9780. 4674

343 Clark. The Conservatory. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom condo + den. 2 car park. Locker. Call Mr. Manley, Bus.977-7821, Res. 487-7372. 5322

6 Condominiums For Sale

THE RESIDENCES OF
RIDLEY BOULEVARD
SUPERB CONVENIENCE
QUALITY LIVING
2 BEDROOM + SOLARIUM
FINISHED SUITES
FROM $246,000
10% % FINANCING
PARKING, LOCKER AND
5 APPLIANCES INCLUDED
MODEL SUITE
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SKYMARK REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH
CHOICES of 2-bdrm., 2-bdrm. + fam. or luxury penthouse w/roof garden, cathedral ceil., skylights, f.p., 2 parking + more.
SKYMARK ELEGANCE. 1,889 sq. ft. 2 bdrm. + fam. + balc. For our updated inventory call Santee Leung, **THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST,** 441-2003/24 hr. on call, carphone + pager. **SANTEE LEUNG INC.**

7 Condominiums For Rent

3000 Bathurst. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bathrooms. New blinds. Indoor parking. Insuite laundry. 486-0409. 5318

8 Condominiums For Rentale

Bathurst/Finch - Savoy. 2,400s.f. Unique luxury. 21st floor. Breathtaking corner. $499,000. 736-8007. 5220

3000 Bathurst. Large 1 bedroom. Solarium. Laundry/storage. Immaculate. $189,000. For rent, 3 bedroom apartment, 2 baths. Solarium. Breakfast room. Laundry. 5 appliances. Security. Hydro, parking, cable included. Newly decorated. $1,500. 782-7466 or leave message at 782-2251. No Shabbos calls. 5447

100 Antibes. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 5 appliances. Vacant. 638-2323. 5352

9 Condominiums Wanted

Richmond Hill/Thornhill - 2 plus bedroom with appliances for short term rental. August-December. 789-9830, leave message. 5431

10 Accommodation Available

Bathurst/Steeles - New rooms. Shared facilities. Private entrance. Non-smokers. $320 monthly. 886-2436. 5437

12 Shared Accommodation

Steeles/Dufferin - Single mother to share house with same. Separate 1 bedroom apartment. Immediate. 738-1858. 5410

Roomate wanted to share with elderly gentleman. Large completely furnished apartment with all facilities, except your own bedroom furniture. $300. At TTC. Bayview/Finch. Kosher student preferred. 223-7777 anytime. 4812

Bathurst/Sheppard - Female, non-smoker to share furnished, A.C. townhouse with woman. Private washroom. $550 monthly inclusive. 398-4995. 5392

Two guys looking for third roomate, male or female, to share a spacious three bedroom apartment. Located in downtown **London** on bus route to Western. Person must be easygoing, know how to have fun & serious about studies. $250 monthly (utilities included). Interested persons call 519-660-4559 or 519-660-0106. 5412

12 Shared Accommodation

Share my house. Near Beth Shalom (Eglinton West subway). Main floor complete with cute little dog and some furniture. 782-1319. 5435

Great house seeks one roommate. Spacious 3 bedrooms, sunroom, fireplace, parking, by Lawrence & Yonge TTC. Fully furnished, reasonable rent. Available immediately. June rent free! Call 486-3872. 5440

Bathurst/Eglinton - Shallmar Blvd. 1 bedroom. Private washroom. Kitchen, T.V. privalages. 782-3904. 5335

13 Apartments For Rent

Bathurst/Lawrence - Furnished basement. Newly built religious home. Kosher kitchen. Close shuls, schools, shopping. 789-1515. 5338

Furnished basement for single person. Immediately. Bathurst/ Roselawn. 782-6682. 5401

Bathurst/Finch - Luxury furnished basement apartment. 3 rooms. Private entrance. Parking. A.C. 221-6478. 5329

Bathurst/Steeles - Luxury 1 bedroom fully furnished basement. All appliances. Air. Central vacuum. T.V. Laundry. Parking. Excellent for professional. 731-7240. 5332

Bathurst/Baycrest - Basement suite. 1 block away from all your needs. 782-1833. 5307

Lawrence/Allen - 6-plex. New 1 bedroom. New appliances. Carpeted. $750- Also 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Parking. 783-0179 days, 886-5515 evenings. 5204

Bathurst/Glencairn - Brand new, furnished 1 bedroom basement apartment. Separate entrance. Non-smoker. Immediately. 787-4154. 5276

19 Cottages For Rent

Georgian Bay. Meaford. 5 bedroom, 3 baths. Magnificent view. B-B-Q. Wet bar. Great for entertaining. $1,200 weekly, longer negotiable. 230-5227. 5363

Lake Simcoe. Big Cedar Point. Lakefront cottage with sandy beach. 4 bedrooms. 447-0008 after 5pm. Weekends, 705-456-3606. 5254

Lake Simcoe. Beaverton. 2 lakefront cottages, 5 bedrooms plus 3 bedrooms. Weekly, monthly, seasonal. Priced accordingly. 495-7633. 5331

19 Cottages For Rent

Balm Beach. Georgian Bay. Close to Midland. 1 bedroom. Fully equipped. Season. 630-2177. 5342

Lake Peninsula. Near Deerhurst Inn. Minutes from Huntsville. Jewish Community. 1 and 2 bedroom available. Shallow sandy beach. Excellent fishing. Available June 15 to Labour Day weekend. 1 bedroom, $2,000. 2 bedroom, $3,200. 631-0676, 746-7342. 5395

Waterfront, New Gamebridge Beach. Lake Simcoe. 2 bedroom. 226-0009, 749-5291. 5316

20 Cottages For Sale

Jewish Cottage Community. Penn Lake. Near Deerhurst and Hidden Valley. Minutes from Huntsville. Community of 6. Only 2 left. Lakefront. 2 and 3 bedroom. Winterized cottages with basement central heating. Sandy beach. Excellent boating and fishing. $139,000 each. 631-0676 or 746-7342. 5446

Lake Simcoe lakefront. Belle Aire beach. 4 bedroom renovated. Winterized. Sandy beach. Furnished. Appliances. Outdoor Jacuzzi. $429,000. 481-8907, 705-431-1920 weekends. 5176

21 Cottages For Rent/Sale

Belle Ewert. Large 6 bedroom lakefront. Near shul. Month or season. 783-7468. 5444

Belle Ewart. 3 bedrooms. Steps to lake. 764-8334. 5324

23 Florida Property For Rent

QUADOMAIN
Yearly Rental. 1 lge. bdrm, 2 bthrms, completely furnished. High floor, overlooking intercoastal Restaurant. 2 pools, 24 hr sec. $850/month. Turnberry Realty Margaret 305-935-0300.

24 Florida Property For Sale

"PALM AIRE"
Wieder Realty invites you "to come on down" to Palm Aire from June 1st to Sept. 1st and we will reimburse you at closing for air fare up to $500.00 if you purchase one of our fabulous buys. In addition we have a great selection of seasonal rentals. Call Roberta at (305) 978-8300.

West Palm Beach. New 2 bedroom, 2 bath single family home. Pool. Central air. 7 appliances. Garage. Security. $125,000U.S. Terms. 781-2922. 5259

Hollywood Beach. Quadomain. Prestigeous large 1 bedroom, 1½ bath. Beautifully decorated. Nice grounds. 635-5272. 5284

Century Village/Deerfield. Garden apartment. 1, 1½ condo. Enclosed terrace. 661-4370. 5260

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27 Israel Properties

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42 Articles For Sale

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43 Cars for Sale

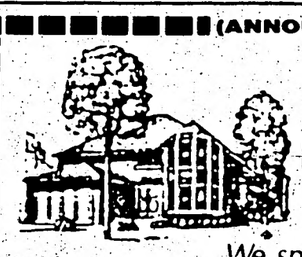
1974 Mercedes. 450SL. White with tan interior. Excellent condition. Cellular telephone included. AM/FM cassette. New A.C., heater. Electric sunroof. Asking $7,500 o.b.o. Call 661-6948. 5344

44 Contents Sale

Executive moving from million dollar home. Top quality custom furniture and accessories; 10 chair dining room suite, 5x10 pool table, pinball, shuffleboard, cottage furniture, etc. Friday-Saturday, June 14-15, 2-5pm. 130 Teefy Ave., off Bathurst, north of Highway 7. 731-0345. 5389

38 Announcements

(ANNOUNCEMENT)



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46 Employment Opportunities

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46 Employment Opportunities

Yeshiva Nachalas Zvi seeks general studies teachers, for grades 8-12, from 4:20-6:20pm, Monday-Thursday, for September 1991 (partial timetables possible within these times). English, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science. Certified experienced teachers send resume to; Principal, 152 Caribou Road, Toronto, M5N 2B3, and/or call 782-8912, mornings only. 5394

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50 Domestic Help Available

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Cleaning lady available. Apartments and houses. Experienced, references. Lorn 740-5846. 5068

Woman available for cleaning and babysitting. Good references. 738-8509. 5241

Experienced health care aid, seeks permanent position for elderly. Live out. References. 960-0729, 494-7996. 5353

Experienced cleaning lady looking for day work. Elizabeth, 658-7193. 5327

Israeli woman interested in taking care of children. Your home or my home. Responsible. Reliable. 667-0338. 5347

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Nannies/Housekeepers - Live-in/out, available for immediate and future placement. Reasonable rates. Licensed. Domestic Referral Services. Ellen Shiewitz. 886-1630. 5107

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Golden Nursing Services 5403

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High quality house cleaning. 736-1179, after 7pm. 5121

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51 Domestic Help Wanted

Do you love to play with kids? We have 2 great little boys who love to laugh and play, but their mommy is too pregnant to run with them. Please consider spending your summer with us in suburban Toronto. Call Miriam, 940-1163. 5384

52 Personals

Large Jewish family to purchase large dining room suite. 731-0968. 5366

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54 Personal Companions

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For these ads simply address your mail to:
The Canadian Jewish News
10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420
Don Mills, Ontario M3C 3A1

Are you looking for a friend? So am I. I am an attractive down to earth, honest, intelligent, caring lady, good listener with a sense of humour. Enjoys walks, art, bridge, conversation, travelling and I am willing to share the expenses. If you are a refined, honest, loving, presentable real gentleman, retired businessman or professional, non-smoker, a mensch in your 60's, please reply with photo and phone number if possible. European men welcome. Snapshots will be returned. Box 5077 CJN. 5267

A very special woman wanted. One who enjoys neither travel nor tennis. Should have a facile manner, facile verbal skills, a passion for frou-frou, and a need to be cared for. This sixty year old gentleman will appreciate you. Reply to Box 5081 CJN. 5309

Blonde, petite female, professional, vivacious bombshell, down to earth, looking for same, 40-50. Box 5038 CJN. 5317

I'm an attractive 25 year old lady, 5'4", traditional, friendly and good natured, like travelling, nature and music, seeking a male 26-33 with similar qualities for a long lasting relationship. Box 5082 CJN. 5333

Active, creative, established, great sense of humour, sexy lady needs a "Gentleman Friend", romantic, refined, 56-66, healthy, to enjoy good life, food, travel, conversation, dancing or quiet life at home. Let's meet for coffee. Box 5084 CJN. 5382

Independent, sophisticated, slim, Jewish female, warm and witty, enjoys museums, dancing, long walks and movies, wishes to meet unattached Jewish male 33-40, with a good sense of humour, genuine and caring and a non-smoker who is ready for a committed relationship. Box 5083 CJN. 5340

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55 Obituaries

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789-7651

Celia Geltner on May 25/91, late of 25 Sycamore Dr.
Millie Brock on May 25/91, late of 176 Caribou Rd.
Marguerite Okun on May 26/91, late of 110 Bloor St. W. #1605.
Miriam Weisman on May 27/91, late of 158 Owen Blvd.
John Norvick on May 27/91, late of 3896 Bathurst St. #106.
Sarah Levine on May 27/91, late of 3 Concord Place #505.
Jonathan Friedman on May 27/91, late of 141 Lyon Ct. #1207.
Sylvia Ginsberg on May 28/91, late of 642 Sheppard Ave. E. #1412.
Joseph Miller on May 27/91, late of P.O. Box 84 Windemere
Samuel Mosher on May 28/91, late of 100 Observatory Lane, #406.
Samuel Galinsky on May 29/91, late of Baycrest Home For The Aged.
Rachel Markowski on May 29/91, late of Searle Ave.
Louis Yalowsky on May 30/91, late of 20 Verwood Ave.
Matthew Emas on May 30/91, late of 525 Chaplin Cres. #810.
Frank Zenner on May 21/91, late of 175 Old Forest Hill Rd.
Max Wintraub on May 20/91, late of 989 Eglinton Ave. W. #316.
Abraham Diamond on May 22/91, late of Baycrest Home For The Aged.
Boris Ulitsky on May 18/91, late of 481 Vaughon Rd.
Joel Cherry on May 23/91, late of 134 Viewmount Ave.
Lillian Fogle on May 22/91, late of 65 Skymark Dr. #303.
Louis Vader on May 22/91, late of Cheltenham Nursing Home.
Carl Green on May 23/91, late of 4415 Bathurst St. #506.

5242

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

55 Obituaries

Alpers, Eunice on June 3, 1991.
Csontos, Karoly on June 4, 1991, late of 10 Shallmar Blvd., #714.
Goldman, Samuel on May 28, 1991, late of 3174 Bathurst St., #1009.
Lipnitzki, Dan on June 3, 1991, late of 6091 Bathurst St., #513.
Pozansky, Liza on May 29, 1991.
Rudnick, Tillie on May 24, 1991.
Saloff, Rose on May 30, 1991.
Sniderman, Percy on May 28, 1991. 5438

Steeles-College Memorial Chapel

56 Unveilings

Bernard, Bea and Randye Kay invite relatives and friends to attend **the unveiling** of a monument to the late **Elsie Freedman** on Sunday, June 16, 1991, 11:00am, at Mount Sinai Memorial Park, Ozrower Section. 5355

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late **Ben Wuls** will take place on Sunday, June 16, 1991, 9:00am, at Mount Sinai Cemetery, Oddfellows Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. 5116

56 Unveilings

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DOROTHY BAIN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 16th, 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Sunnyside Lodge Section
Relatives & friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Ralph M. Farber ז"ל
beloved husband, father, grandfather & brother
will take place
Sunday, June 16, 10 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives & friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ROSALIND BALOFSKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 16th, 11:15 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late
SUE JACOBS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 23rd, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ERIC GOLDLIST ז"ל
Dearly beloved husband, father, grandfather & brother
will take place
Sunday, June 16th, 10:00 a.m.
Lambton Cemetery
Royal York Road (north of Dundas)
Chmielnicker Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Henry Iskov ז"ל
Dearly beloved husband, father zaidy & uncle
will take place
Sunday, June 23, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Zaglembier Section
Relatives & friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Nathan Anielewicz ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 16, 1:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Wierzbniker Section
Relatives & friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BELLE YACK ז"ל
loving wife, mother & grandmother
will take place
Sunday, June 16th, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Young Men's Hebrew Association Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

56 Unveilings

Selden, Max. The unveiling will take place Sunday, June 16, 1991, 2:00pm, at Agudath Achim Cemetery, Roselawn Avenue. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. 5274

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late **Leon (Tody) Kushnir** will take place on Sunday, June 16, 1991, 1:00pm, at Pardes Shalom Cemetery, Beth Aaron Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. 5369

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late **Laszlo Roboz** will take place on Sunday, June 16, 1991, 10:00am, at Pardes Shalom Cemetery, Community Section. Relatives and friends are welcome to attend. 5337

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

Albert Jack Niddam ז"ל

loving husband, father, papa, brother & friend

Service will take place

Sunday, June 23, 7:30 p.m.

343 Clark Ave. W. Apt. #1503

Unveiling will take place

Monday, June 24, 9 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Shaarei Shomayim Section

Relatives & friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

HARRY MAGALNICK ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, June 16, 10:30 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Labour Zionist Alliance Section

Relatives & friends are invited to attend.

To place your **classified ad** *please call* **ALAN** *at* **422-2528**

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We cannot bill for classified ads. They may be charged over the telephone to your Visa credit card, or you may mail in your ad with a cheque to **The Canadian Jewish News**, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

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Soviet-Israeli lab established at Ben-Gurion U. meeting

BEERSHEBA — At the 21st annual meeting of Ben-Gurion University board of governors in Beersheba and Arad, an agreement was signed between Israel and the Soviet Union establishing a binational-energy research laboratory.

The Soviet laboratory will be located in Moscow at the Institute for Chemical-Physical Energy Problems under the direction of Prof. Victor Talroze, with the Israeli counterpart at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev co-directed by Prof. Herman Branover, head of BGU's Centre for Magneto hydrodynamics.

Both professors were signatories to the agreement, along with Prof. Alexander E. Sheindlin, a renowned Soviet academician and outstanding scientist who was one of the first initiators of scientific collaboration between Israel and the U.S.S.R.

In his introductory remarks, Branover said, "Our planet cannot increase without energy and the protection of the environment . . . the future of mankind is therefore in the hands of scientists."

Branover, who immigrated to Israel from the Soviet Union in the early '70s, has been collaborating with Soviet colleagues for the past year.

In March 1990, under the auspices of the Ministry of Science and Technology, his centre signed a contract with the Moscow Institute for High Temperatures, headed by Sheindlin.

Since then the Moscow Institute has been supplying components of MHD systems to be used in BGU's Etgar 5 project for the construction of power stations with turbines.

The two scientists proposed establishing a joint laboratory, which will seek new technologies based on solar and wind energy, oil shales and other resources, examine their feasibility and engage in joint production and marketing.

Ben-Gurion University president Avishay Braverman described the event as a "historic day for Israel, the Soviet Union and Ben-Gurion University."

Braverman spoke of the Negev as the focus for the growth of the State of Israel during the '90s with Ben-Gurion University as the vehicle to absorb many of the new Russian immigrants.

Amnon Einav, a representative of the Ministry of Energy, was a participant in the signing ceremony.

The agreement also specified the convening of a joint Israel-U.S.S.R. Energy conference, which took place at Ben-Gurion University May 13-15 under the auspices of the Minister of Energy and Infrastructure Prof. Yuval Ne'eman, Ben-Gurion University and the Moscow International Energy Club.

The gathering was attended by 14 senior Soviet scientists including Prof. Yuri Rodenko, expert in electrical power stations; Prof. O. Favorsky, specialist on jet engines and gas turbines and Prof. N. Chernoplekov, known for his work on high-temperature superconductors in various fields of energy.

SHOPPERS	SENIORS
Take advantage of shopping in Buffalo June 26th — **$30.00** Includes transportation to 2 popular malls and shopping coupons worth hundreds.	Bus trip to the **Albright Knox Art Gallery** in Buffalo — June 20th — **$30.00** Includes transportation and tour of gallery.

For details **224-2681** reservations

The Canadian Jewish news

has a great line up of special supplements coming up ...

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NORTH OF STEELES
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AUGUST 29
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Deadline: Tues., Aug. 6

SEPTEMBER 5
ROSH HASHANAH
Deadline: Thurs., Aug. 8

Watch for our weeky dining and travel pages

CALL 422-2331
for information on these and other upcoming specials.

Use of cellular phones risky for drivers: CAA study

TORONTO — Failure to react to traffic situations and a longer response time are two dangers of operating a cellular phone while driving, according to a new study available through the Canadian Automobile Association.

The 3.3 million member, not-for-profit Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) reported that carrying on a complex conversation on a cellular phone poses greater risk to the driver and vehicle occupants than placing a call or carrying on a simple cellular phone conversation.

The study also revealed that tuning a radio while driving poses almost as great a risk as carrying on a complex telephone conversation.

The Effect of Cellular Phone Use Upon Driver Attention was prepared for the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, which receives financial support from the Canadian Automobile Association.

The study put 151 subjects through a 25-minute video simulation which included 18 vehicle situations such as a vehicle stopped ahead or entering the lane, 10 road configuration situations such as a narrow bridge or a lane ending and 19 other situations requiring reaction from the driver.

The response to highway-traffic situation is threatened most by cellular phones when used by older drivers (50-80 years of age), CAA reported. Overall, increased likelihood of traffic dangers going unnoticed while placing a call or conversing is twice as great among older drivers than among their younger counterparts.

CAA is aware that cellular phones pose certain traffic safety problems. Nevertheless, the Association recognizes that traffic safety is enhanced when cellular phones allow highway emergencies to be quickly reported.

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Custom Cabinets. We specialize in all types of cabinet making. Residential, industrial, commercial. Isaac, formerly of Quality Cabinets. 660-4571. 5003

Clothing

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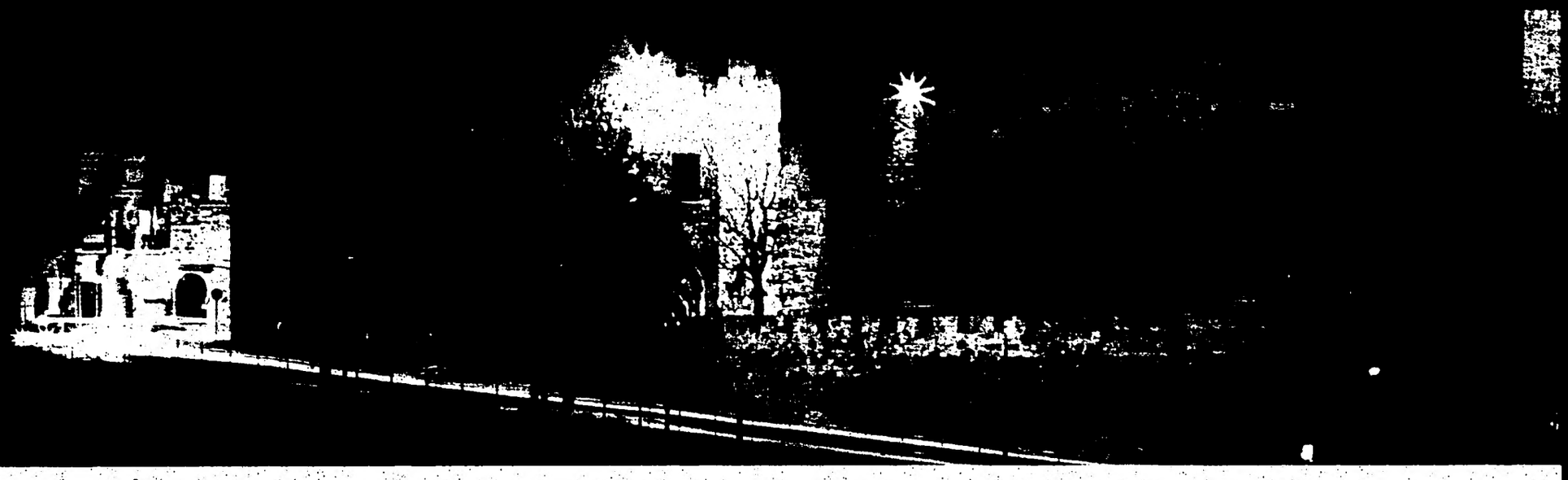

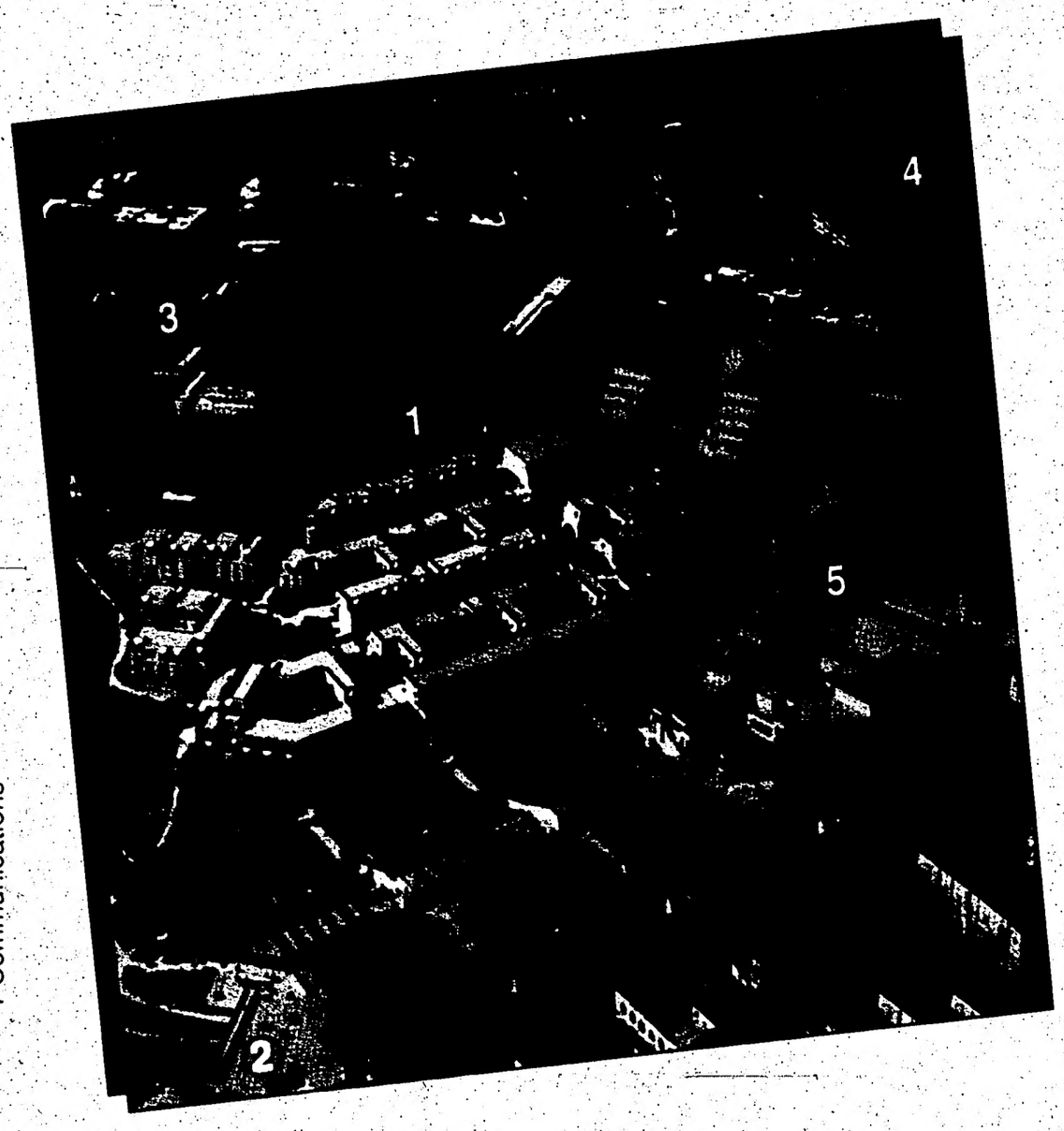

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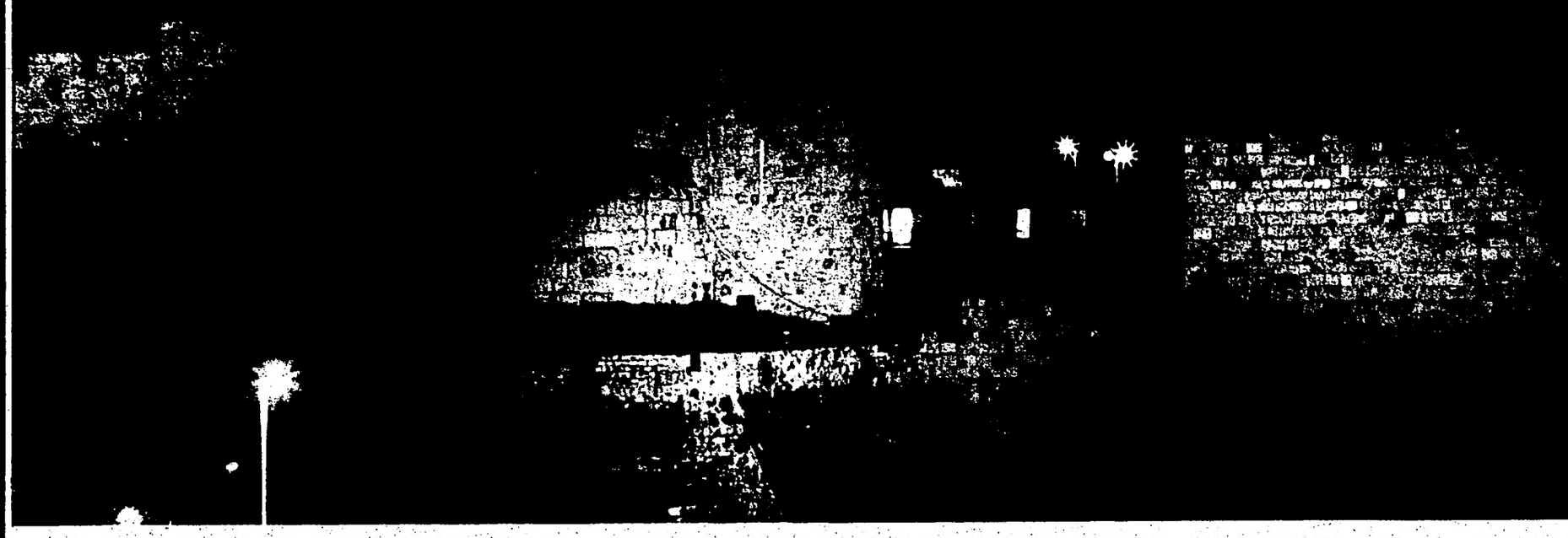

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A letter from the Editor-in-Chief

Dear Reader,

In addition to sending this week's magazine to our thousands of regular subscribers, we have decided to mail it to over 100,000 individually selected potential readers in the U.S. and Canada. If you are among them, it is no coincidence that this copy has reached you. We know of your interest in Israel, the international Jewish community and events in the Middle East. And these are precisely the issues we cover, with in-depth reporting, analysis and editorial comment.

The Jerusalem Report was not born overnight. First came the dream. For 10 years Ze'ev Chafets, now our editor, and I often talked about how valuable it would be to produce an international Jewish news weekly of distinction. But we were both busy with other things, and the idea never went past the talking stage.

Then, in the autumn of 1989, I received a phone call from Australia. Sam Lipski, an old friend and veteran journalist representing industrialist Richard Pratt, came up with the offer to establish exactly the type of magazine we had in mind.

We were interested, but had two conditions: It would have to be editorially independent, and it would need to have the resources necessary to hire the finest journalists available. They agreed, an international consortium of owners was established, and by January 1, 1990 we were on our way.

The first goal was to define and flesh out the product. Natan Sharansky emphasized our role as a journal of international Jewish communication, one that could inform and connect Jews throughout the world. Chafets demanded that we be solid, but irreverent and lively. Ehud Ya'ari stressed the need for tough reporting and exclusive information. Stuart Schoffman insisted on a back-of-the-book section eclectic enough to emcompass Jewish creativity from Bob Dylan to Isaiah Berlin and everything in between. For my part, I was determined that we maintain high standards of intellectual honesty, and a clear division between opinion and reporting.

By March 1990 we had recruited a staff of top-flight journalists, some veteran Israelis, some recent arrivals in Jerusalem, as well as a team of correspondents in more than 30 countries, including the United States, the Soviet Union, Canada, Egypt, Lebanon, Turkey — almost everywhere that news affecting Israel and the Jewish people is made. Finally, to ensure that we abide by our ideals, we appointed the BBC's former Israel correspondent, Michael Elkins, one of the world's most trusted reporters, to be our ombudsman.

The Jerusalem Report is something new in Jewish journalism: a magazine with no organizational interests or political agenda. Our senior editors come from various parts of the political spectrum; our comment pages are open to anyone with something interesting and provocative to say. We are a magazine with ambitious goals, and we are proud of what we have accomplished so far. Each week we strive to provide our international audience with news and views that matter.

We hope that you will join that audience.

We pledge not to disappoint.

Yours sincerely,

Hirsh Goodman
Editor-in-Chief

LETTERS

Being green

Congratulations on your May 16 cover story ("Poisoning the Land of Milk and Honey"). Environmental issues in Israel are in desperate need of publicity.

Articles such as yours can contribute to increasing general awareness of the problems. Such awareness may, in turn, motivate the authorities to strengthen legislation and, more important, tighten enforcement. However, it is unlikely that much progress will be made so long as the government regards the environment as a low-priority issue, undeserving of a full-time cabinet minister (although on second thoughts, considering the performance of the current lot of ministers . . .

It is ironic that though Israel manages to keep pace with the Western world in environmental research, maintaining relatively high scientific standards, we are back in the Dark Ages when it comes to implementation.

Dani Barkai
Jerusalem

EcoNet would like to compliment you on your report on pesticides. Please convey our compliments to Elaine Ruth Fletcher and the other writers involved in this piece. We hope you will continue your outstanding coverage on these environmental issues.

Shirley Benjamin
Director, EcoNet
Karkur

Thank you for your articles on our polluted environment. I hope our bureaucrats take heed.

Please let us know if bottled water is indeed better than that which flows from our faucets. Do they test for chemical pollutants?

Chaim Highlein
Rishon Letzion

Good question. Answer in upcoming article.

Distorted views

"You've got to be carefully taught," goes the old Rodgers and Hammerstein song about the sources of prejudice. We know what the religious and secular have been taught in Israel. Hirsh Goodman's article on how the ultra-Orthodox mark Memorial Day ("For Whom the Siren Sounds," May 2) was conciliatory and free of the usual hysteria. Despite this, he managed to include all the usual stereotypes: *they* don't serve in the army; *they* don't produce tax revenues; *they* fled the Scuds (it was American yeshivah students who left, not Israelis); *they* show no responsibility to the state; *they* don't identify with history, but wait for a better world. *We* must lay down the law to *them* about living in *our* country.

Many ultra-Orthodox have also been carefully taught that anything coming from the "others" cannot be positive or neutral, only *treif* — non-kosher. Could it be that the teachings feed on each other?

The ultra-Orthodox have cousins across the Atlantic who are no less committed religiously, yet have no problem working in a melting pot with non-Jews and lapsed Jews. You can learn to live with those who disagree with you, but not with those who caricature you. Perhaps we should all rethink what we are teaching about each other and avoid cycles of hatred.

Yitzchok Adlerstein
Professor of Judaic Studies
Yeshiva of Los Angeles

Islamic hatred

Rabbi Irving Greenberg rightly maintains ("The Moral State of Islam," May 2) that Israel will have no permanent peace until Islam purges itself of its hateful tradition vis-a-vis Jews (and others). This is not yet understood by most of the public, who are unable to appreciate the significance that the words of Allah (who hates the Jews) bear in the Muslim world.

Rabbi Greenberg asks the rhetorical question: Who can extricate Islam from the morass of hatred? And I add: Can a Muslim theologian ever find a solution, taking into account that the Holy Koran (which determines the inferior status of the unbelievers) was not composed by humankind, but is the unchangeable word of Allah?

The question whether to hold an international peace conference (where the Muslim countries will not talk directly with Israelis) or direct talks is not a matter of procedure: It is the touchstone for the recognition of the existence of an independent Jewish state — an Islamic theological impossibility.

Dr. Herbert Cohn
Ashdod

Sign off

As a regular listener to Israel Radio's shortwave service in English since the Lebanon War, I feel deeply concerned at the proposed cutbacks ("Radio Silence," May 23). An important link between Israel and the Diaspora is being axed. And also the only independent, up-to-the-minute source of information for all those who realize that the foreign media tend to be one-sided and unreliable when it comes to reporting on Israel.

Without the broadcasts from Jerusalem we will not know what is really going on in Israel and the Middle East, nor will we be able to fight anti-Israel bias in the media on a day-to-day basis: By the time Israeli newspapers and magazines get here, it is much too late.

Ruth Willers
Middlesex, England

Jack Benny and the Jews

Calev Ben-David's review of "Sunday Nights at Seven: The Jack Benny Story" (April 25) captures the essence of the book and the man except for Ben-David's conclusion that Benny did not have any Jewish identification other than belonging to a Jewish country club.

The truth is that Jack Benny, unlike most other Jewish Hollywood stars, publicly identified himself as a Jew concerned about Israel on many public platforms for the United Jewish Appeal — and always without a fee.

I know, as I dealt with him personally when I was western director for UJA based in Los Angeles. Benny readily made himself available, speaking in small towns and big cities, from San Diego to Houston, from Sacramento to Phoenix, sometimes with the late Max Nussbaum, the rabbi of the movie stars.

Further, despite his miserly act, Benny was one of the few who made an annual contribution to UJA.

Irving Bernstein
Scarsdale, NY

Required reading

Jonathan Blass's article on compassion for the wicked or the criminal ("The Limits of Compassion" April 11), is the clearest exposition of the subject we have yet read. It should be required reading for all Jews.

Anna and Harry Estherson
Netanyah (New York)

Transoceanic enjoyment

We enjoy reading The Jerusalem Report from cover to cover — even the TV and radio schedules. It gives us a feeling of daily life in Israel.

Dorothy and Bernard Hertzman
Montreal

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Cover illustration: Avi Katz

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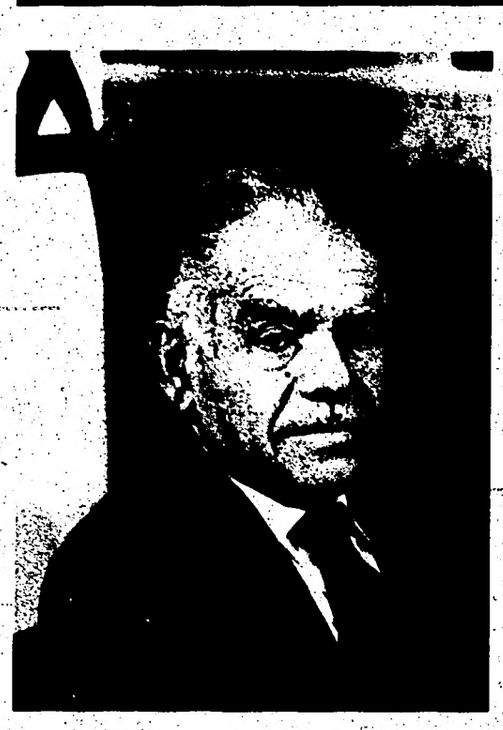
SHAMIR MULLS AN EARLY ELECTION



Shamir: Is he preparing to flout convention? GPO

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is considering calling an early general election toward the end of the year. Close aides of the PM cite three compelling reasons for moving up the next Knesset election, due in November 1992:

• Recent polls show the Likud to be the most popular party among Soviet immigrants. If Shamir waits too long, unemployment and the housing shortage could lose the Likud the Russian vote.

• An early election could slow down the peace process and deflect American pressure for territorial compromise.

• Most important, Shamir's inner circle is advising him to go to the polls before the Likud convention, which has to be held, by court order, before next March. Internal Likud politics is controlled by the party's Central Committee, which at present is strongly weighted in Shamir's favor. But the convention will choose a new Central Committee, which might not be as supportive of Shamir.

The present committee virtually guarantees Shamir's continued leadership; should he decide to step down, he could pass on the mantle unchallenged to his preferred successor, Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

The big loser in this scenario would be Foreign Minister David Levy, who feels the only way he can mount a serious leadership challenge is by showing his strength in a full-fledged party convention.

Already a group of more than 100 prominent Likud members is demanding that a convention be held without further delay. "We have heard of Shamir's (election) plans, and we want to make sure the party's true voice is heard," says one.

Shamir could get some unexpected help in the leadership stakes from his archrival, Labor leader Shimon Peres. Peres too would like to see an early election and for much the same reason: He wants to preempt a leadership challenge from his longtime nemesis, former defense minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Matters could come to a head sooner than expected. If Interior Minister Arye Deri, currently under investigation on charges of misappropriating funds, is officially charged, and as a result leads the five-man Shas faction out of the coalition, or if the parties on the right decide to withdraw over Israeli concessions in the peace process, Shamir would virtually be forced to call a new election. "In either of these cases," a close Shamir aide said, "the Prime Minister will not be prepared to work with a shaky coalition that could be toppled at any moment."

Leslie Susser

HAMAS'S YOUNG TURKS STRAIN AT THE LEASH

Hamas's Yassin: Are his activists getting too zealous? Hadashot

For the first time, the young leadership of Hamas, the Gaza-born outlawed Islamic Resistance Movement, is showing a degree of independence from the organization's veteran leaders and espousing a more radical line of its own.

Hamas's elderly spiritual head, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, who is in detention awaiting trial on charges including murder, has always surrounded himself with associates from deeply conservative backgrounds. But Hamas's younger organizational backbone includes members of the liberal professions and newly religious Muslims — people who are thoroughly acquainted with Western values but reject them.

The first clear public expression of the spirit guiding this group has come from four top Hamas commanders, Imad al-Alami, Mustafa al-Dawi, Fadl al-Zahar and Mustafa Kanu, who were deported from the Israeli-held territories last December.

The following is the gist of the views the four commanders communicated to the main pro-Hamas organ, Filastin al-Muslima, (Muslim Palestine) which is published in Manchester, England:

• The recent Palestinian stabbings of Israelis constitute a "leap of quality" in the Intifada, given the decline in popular violence in the uprising. The PLO-affiliated groups are now incapable of re-igniting the Intifada; only Hamas can do it, because its activists are still full of zeal and have not succumbed to the frustration that has paralyzed their pro-Arafat rivals.

• Hamas must therefore transform itself into an organizational framework for all forces — not only Islamic — that are willing to persevere with the Intifada. There should be a new attempt to reach a truce with the PLO and increase cooperation with the various Islamic Jihad factions. A new front should be formed, incorporating several organizations into the Hamas leadership.

However, neither the negotiations now going on between detainees of the various groups in Israeli prisons nor meetings in the territories are sufficient to bring this about. What is needed is the encouragement and sponsorship of fundamentalist leaders abroad. Hamas should also enter into dialogue with left-wing organizations.

• The use of firearms against Israeli targets should be stepped up. But firearms should be barred from large-scale demonstrations, their use confined to select squads operating far from the arena of "mass activity." Hamas should also consider giving the green light to armed attacks on American targets.

Ehud Ya'ari

Parenting panel at gay and lesbian conference Kaufman

JUST THE SAME, ONLY DIFFERENT

It looked pretty much like any Jewish conference. Good-natured groups milled about the desk at San Francisco's Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, picking up literature, discussing workshops, buying hand-crafted Judaica and checking the bulletin board.

But a glance at the messages would have told the most casual observer that this conference was different. It was the 12th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews, held May 24-27.

Among the handwritten notes was one from a Canadian looking for other Sephardi gays, another from a lesbian couple seeking a sperm donor, and yet another, in Yiddish, that a new group is forming in San Francisco for *lesbiankes*.

"My grandmother never would have let that word out of her mouth," laughed participant Asher Quell of New York. But even the most traditional grandmother would have felt at home with many of the issues tackled by the some 500 participants, from 10 countries including Israel, Hungary, Germany, New Zealand and the Soviet Union.

Three workshops were dedicated to parenting, for example, and there were sessions on the kinds of nuts-and-bolts questions faced by congregations everywhere — financial stability, hiring a rabbi, reaching out to unaffiliated Jews.

Parenting is a complicated prospect when both partners are of the same sex. In a workshop on becoming parents, attorney Roberta Achtenberg, one of two Jewish lesbians on San Francisco's Board of Supervisors, the city's governing body, outlined the legal barriers facing the 50 people who had come to explore their options.

The worldwide AIDS epidemic was palpable in many of the proceedings. Those fighting the disease expressed concern not only about sickness and death but also about whether they will get a Jewish funeral, and about the kind of support their rabbis and congregations will give their bereaved lovers when they need it most.

Tamar Kaufman / San Francisco

TO FREE A SPY

U.S. superlawyer Arthur Liman, best known for his role as chief investigator in the Senate Irangate hearings, doesn't believe American Jews should bear responsibility for seeking Jonathan Pollard's release from prison.

"If Israel feels Pollard has been treated unfairly, it knows how to get him an early release," said Liman in an interview in Jerusalem. "There's no doubt that if he were a Soviet spy, he'd be out by now. (Pollard, a former U.S. Naval Intelligence official, was convicted in 1987 of passing classified information to Israel and was sentenced to life in prison.)

"I don't feel it's a matter for the American Jewish community. If Israel caught an American spy, it shouldn't be the American immigrants who get him out. The Israeli government can't pass this off on the American Jewish community."

Liman acknowledges his own sense that Pollard was treated unfairly. "In my bones, I believe the importance of the information he turned over was exaggerated. I do think the sentence was harsh."

Known to millions of Americans who watched the Irangate hearings on TV, Liman was in Israel for a conference of the Israel Democracy Institute, a think tank he co-chairs that brings Diaspora and Israeli researchers together to examine possibilities for electoral reform here.

In a interview at the Hyatt Hotel, Liman declined to suggest specific reform measures, but was vehement in his condemnation of Israel's political system.

"After an election you engage in a process that has, by American standards, all the earmarks of machine political corruption. I have yet to meet a member of the American government, of Congress, that doesn't express concern, or look at it with derision," he said.

Liman, a 58-year-old New Yorker, is known as the lawyer of choice for top corporate executives in legal trouble. His most recent highly publicized case was the defense of junk-bond king Michael Milken.

Describing himself as an identifying Jew, Liman says: "I've supported Israel all my life — other than by making aliyah. I identify my homeland as the United States."

His own conclusions about Irangate: "There was absolutely no doubt that the president authorized the sale of arms to Iran for hostages, and that he authorized Israel to begin the first shipment. There was no doubt the president was seeking support for the Contras. What he has denied is knowing about the diversion.

"Israel proposed the initiative; the people in the Israeli government who advocated it saw sales of arms as in Israel's interests. But Israel could only propose — it was the United States and a particular president who decided to accept the recommendation and do the arms sales."

Felice Maranz

UNCLE JETSAM?

Israel Air Force honchos are looking some gift horses in the mouth only to discover that they've been saddled with a pack of white elephants.

The lemons in question are the 10 second-hand F-15 fighters U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney bestowed on the IAF during his visit to Israel at the end of May. Israeli aircraft technology has honed retrofitting into a high art, but adapting the vintage 1974 aircraft ("more Subaru than Stealth," quipped one officer) will siphon millions from IAF's operating budget, reducing man-hours of in-flight training for pilots, sources told The Reporter.

The bright side: Israeli army brass are hoping that the F-15 package might be a harbinger of U.S. intentions to shift big hunks of European-stocked military hardware to Israel (reportedly valued at $700 million) following arms limitation agreements with the Soviets.

Jerusalem Report staff

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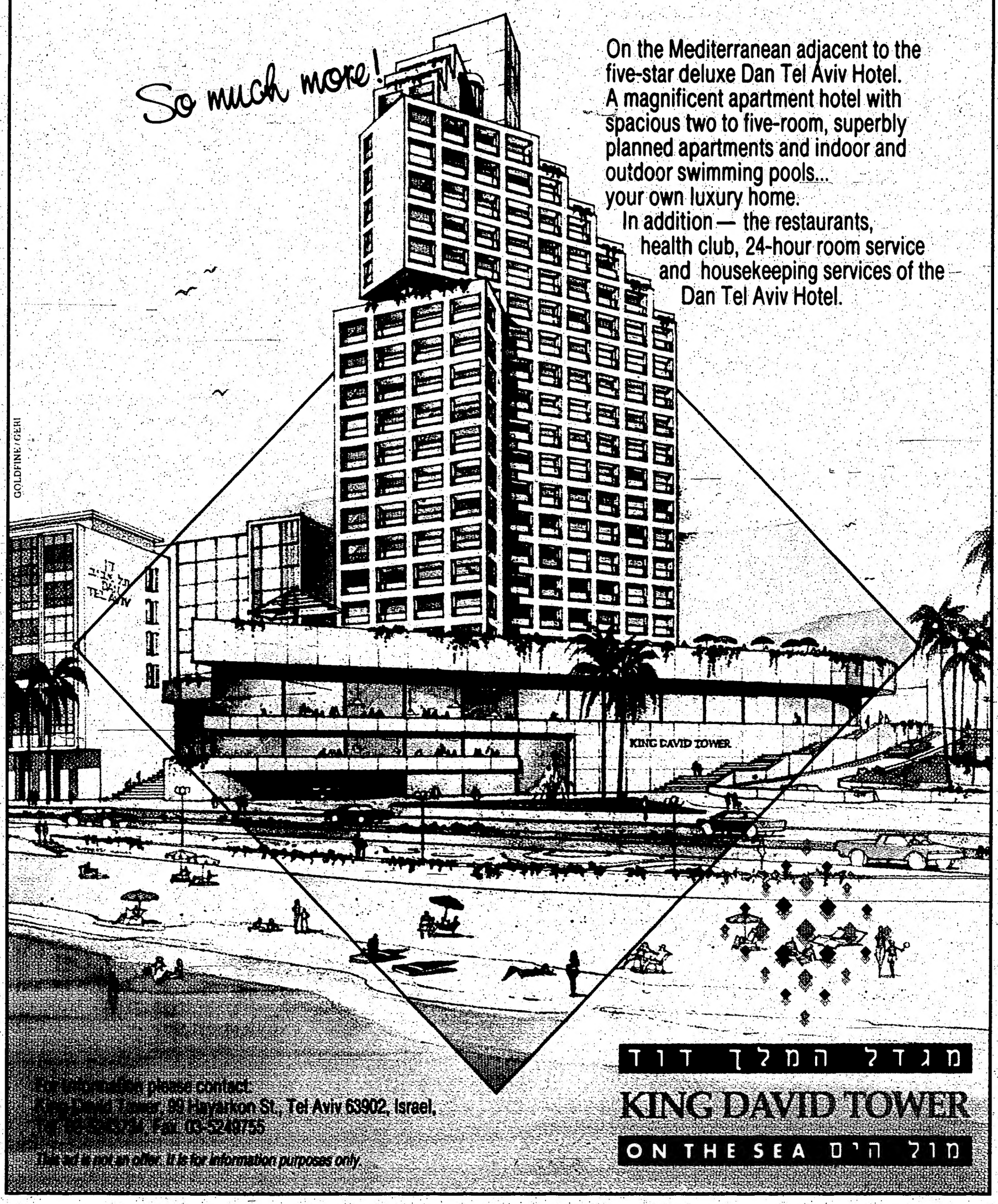

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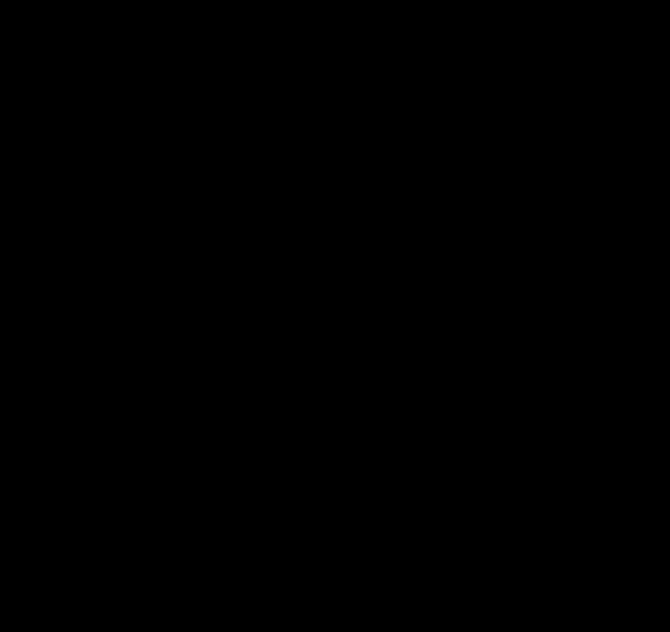

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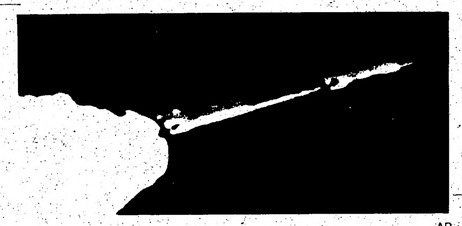
SPECIAL REPORT

The Arrow's flight

Very soon, a missile will streak skyward over the Israeli coast. Its mission: to intercept and destroy an incoming missile.

It will be the third test flight of the Arrow, Israel's anti-missile missile — and its maiden interception. The target of the land-launched Arrow will be another Arrow, simulating the flight path of an incoming ballistic missile.

The test flight will signal the end of the first phase in development of the Arrow by Israel Aircraft Industries. The go-ahead for the second stage came with the signing of an agreement on May 30 by U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney and Defense Minister Moshe Arens, during Cheney's recent visit to Israel. The U.S. will pick up 72 percent of the $290 million tab for the 45-month second phase — code-named ACES (Arrow Continuation Experiments) — with Israel footing the rest. The U.S. paid 80 percent of the $158 million cost of the first phase, in which a one-stage rocket was used. In the second phase, two-stage missiles will be built and tested.


AP

Signing of the ACES agreement indicates that two obstacles, which could have brought the Arrow down, have been overcome.

The Arrow got its start from the Reagan Strategic Defense Initiative ("Star Wars") but it has not been hurt by Congress's skepticism toward space-based defenses. And as a defensive missile, it is not included in President George Bush's new arms control initiative, which seeks to limit offensive missiles in the Middle East.

Israel's Scud experience during the Gulf War made it clear that a tiny country, with most of its population concentrated in a small area along a narrow strip, needs a missile-defense system. Geographical realities mean the Arrow must meet two basic demands. First, it has to provide hermetic protection against any missile in the hands of Arab states. It must be 99.9 percent effective, allowing not more than one in 1,000 enemy missiles to penetrate. Second, the Arrow has to prevent any nuclear, chemical or biological fallout, and keep debris from conventional weapons, hit in the atmosphere, from falling to earth.

No system operational today fills both needs. Developers of the Arrow feel that in 1995, when it is operational, the Arrow should provide near foolproof defense against threats from Syria's SS21 and other sophisticated missiles, and potential danger from countries with nuclear capability.

The Arrow is based not on single-shot defenses, but a system of back-ups to assure a 99.9 percent hit rate. Should the first Arrow miss its target, a second and third will home in on the incoming missile; the follow-up Arrows will reach their target only 22 seconds after the first miss.

The Arrow's performance will far surpass the U.S.-made Patriot's. An anti-aircraft weapon upgraded to deal with missiles, the Patriot did not fly high enough or fast enough, nor was it accurate enough, to knock out all the missiles launched by Iraq. Even when it hit, the Patriot could not stop the fall of debris. The Iraqi rockets were primitive, with conventional warheads, so cost to Israel in casualties and damage was painful but not catastrophic. Weapons launched next time, planners warn, may be more dangerous. It is therefore imperative to intercept in the stratosphere, assuring only tiny particles reach the ground.

The Patriot intercepts its target 8 kms (5 miles) above the ground; the Arrow will make its first hit at a height of more than 30 km (19 miles). With its greater range, the Arrow can shield a far wider area than Patriots, which were designed to defend military bases, not cities. Enough Arrow batteries will be deployed around the country to protect overlapping areas.

Incoming missiles have to be totally destroyed to prevent huge blazing chunks of falling debris, or chemical, biological and nuclear fallout. The Arrow's mission is to blow incoming missiles to bits. Its highly destructive payload is comprised of hundreds of high-explosive fragments. It flies at 9 times the speed of sound, three times as fast as the Patriot; experts say high impact speed, and the warhead power, assure target destruction. The Arrow's super-sophisticated radar will plot the trajectory of the incoming missile, and direct the intercepting missile to its target. Developed by Elta, an IAI subsidiary, the radar — based on technology developed for the Lavi warplane — can spot a target hundreds of kilometers away. Given the known state of Israeli defense technology, the Arrow can be expected to possess artificial intelligence capabilities and the ability to make its own in-flight decisions.

Neither of the two Arrow tests conducted to date has been an unqualified success. On April 9, 1990 the first Arrow, fired off Palmahim, south of Tel Aviv, was destroyed five seconds after launch when both ground radars failed. Results of the second test — on March 25, 1990 — were better; the missile was aloft longer before an electrical malfunction made destruction necessary. Experts say that in the second test aerodynamics and aeronautics systems performed well.

IAI has entered into an agreement with Lockheed, the U.S. aerospace giant, on Arrow production and development. It is due to be deployed five years before the U.S. anti-missile system, THAAD (Theater High-Altitude Area Defense), goes into service. Until the start of the 21st century, the only operating anti-missile system may have a made-in-Israel label. ❑

Peter Hirschberg

THE WEEK THAT WAS

Forty tombstones were found overturned and daubed with anti-Israeli graffiti on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives on June 3 Harari

Rejecting: Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was on June 4 reported to be drafting a negative response to a letter from George Bush, in which the U.S. president urged flexibility on what he called the procedural "trifles" blocking a Middle East peace conference. Shamir was said to be insisting the United Nations had no role to play, and that the conference had to be a one-time event — preceding direct negotiations between Israel, Arab states and the Palestinians — rather than an ongoing forum.

Not yet: Vague statements by King Hussein of Jordan on the need to break Middle East taboos and hold face-to-face meetings with Israeli leaders were followed almost immediately by comments from Jordanian Foreign Minister Taher al-Masri that the king was not planning on "jumping to Jerusalem with the Israelis." Responding to the king's remarks, contained in a June 1 interview with France's Le Point news magazine, Shamir said he would be happy to meet Hussein, but would issue an invitation only when he was sure the king would accept.

Retort: At the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on June 3, Shamir asserted that "every declaration" made by Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak constituted an attack on Israeli policies, positions, and Shamir personally. Mubarak's hostile statements, Shamir said, did nothing to produce an atmosphere conducive to regional peace. On June 1, Arab League Secretary General Esmat Abd al-Maguid, the former Egyptian foreign minister, declared that the Arabs will never give up "one inch of their occupied lands."

Infiltrations: Maj. Gen. Danny Yatom, who heads the army's Central Command, disclosed on June 1 that barely a night goes by without an attempted terrorist infiltration from Jordan. Yatom spoke following infiltratations on the previous two days. In the first, a Jordanian armed with two knives was captured at a crowded Dead Sea resort. In the second, two armed terrorists entered the perimeter of an IDF outpost in the Jordan Valley. One was killed, the second escaped back to Jordan. Army investigators said the infiltrators should have been intercepted earlier.

Questioned: Interior Minister Aryeh Deri was questioned for 2½ hours on June 2 by a five-detective police team investigating suspicions of fraud, corruption and illegal channelling of government funds to institutions associated with his Shas Party. Deri reportedly answered some questions but kept silent on the important ones. The police have asked Attorney General Yosef Harish, to intervene in the investigation of Shas Knesset Member Yair Levy, suspected of forging checks and making private use of Shas funds. Police have been unable to agree with Levy on a date for questioning.

Fasting: Peace activist Abie Nathan, ignoring pleas from Israeli and Arab leaders, was still on hunger strike on June 4, the 38th day of his fast. Nathan, protesting the law forbidding meetings between Israeli citizens and organizations defined as terrorist, had said he would end his fast if an amendment to the law, permitting such meetings if only peace was discussed, won approval. But on May 29, the Knesset rejected the amendment in a 43-27 vote.

No swapping: The Army on June 3 issued a firm denial of reports that gas masks, distributed to all Israelis prior to the Gulf War, are to be replaced because tests have shown that air exit valves could malfunction after repeated use.

"QUOTE, UNQUOTE"

"The taboos must disappear. . . . We feel we should meet everybody. . . . These face-to-face contacts should. . . dissipate our fears." **Jordan's King Hussein,** *in a June 1 interview.*

"I invite him to come to Jerusalem. . . . We will be happy to talk to him, to roll out the red carpet and bring out a brass band." **Foreign Minister David Levy,** *welcoming Hussein's remarks.*

"Threatening our Israeli friends with an arms cutoff, for example, in order to get them to do something in the diplomatic arena, I think would be counterproductive. I would think if we would do that with respect to our Egyptian friends, it would be counterproductive." **U.S. Secretary of Defense Cheney,** *at a June 2 meeting with the American Chamber of Commerce in Cairo.*

"It seems to us after an initial reading, that if (these ideas) are implemented, they will increase Israeli military superiority in general, and qualitative superiority." **Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Shara'a,** *on May 31, responding to U.S. President George Bush's arms control initiative.*

"I encouraged Israelis to show a more flexible stand to achieve peace, and I demanded they stop settlements and improve their treatment of the Palestinians." **Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama,** *on May 31, speaking at the Dehveishah refugee camp on the West Bank.*

"We'll write Mr. Sing that, as Chairman Mao said, even a long trek begins with one small step." **Boaz Schweiger,** *of the Jewish Agency's Aliyah Department, offering to help a Beijing resident who expressed his desire to move to Israel.*

"All journalists are defeatist leftists from single-parent families. The vast majority of them have committed themselves to their contemptible occupation in order to speed up the establishment of a Palestinian state between the Jordan River and the sea, and in order to eliminate Zionism." *From the latest issue of the Mateh Binyamin Regional Council settler publication, Ben Oni.*

"The Jewish people in its 2,000th year does not have the right to demand of its doctors that they implement death sentences." **Prof. Shmuel Penchas,** *director general of Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital, responding to new directives to cut back on Civil Administration funding for the hospitalization in Israel of sick and injured West Bank residents.*

Compiled by David Horovitz and Sharon Ashley

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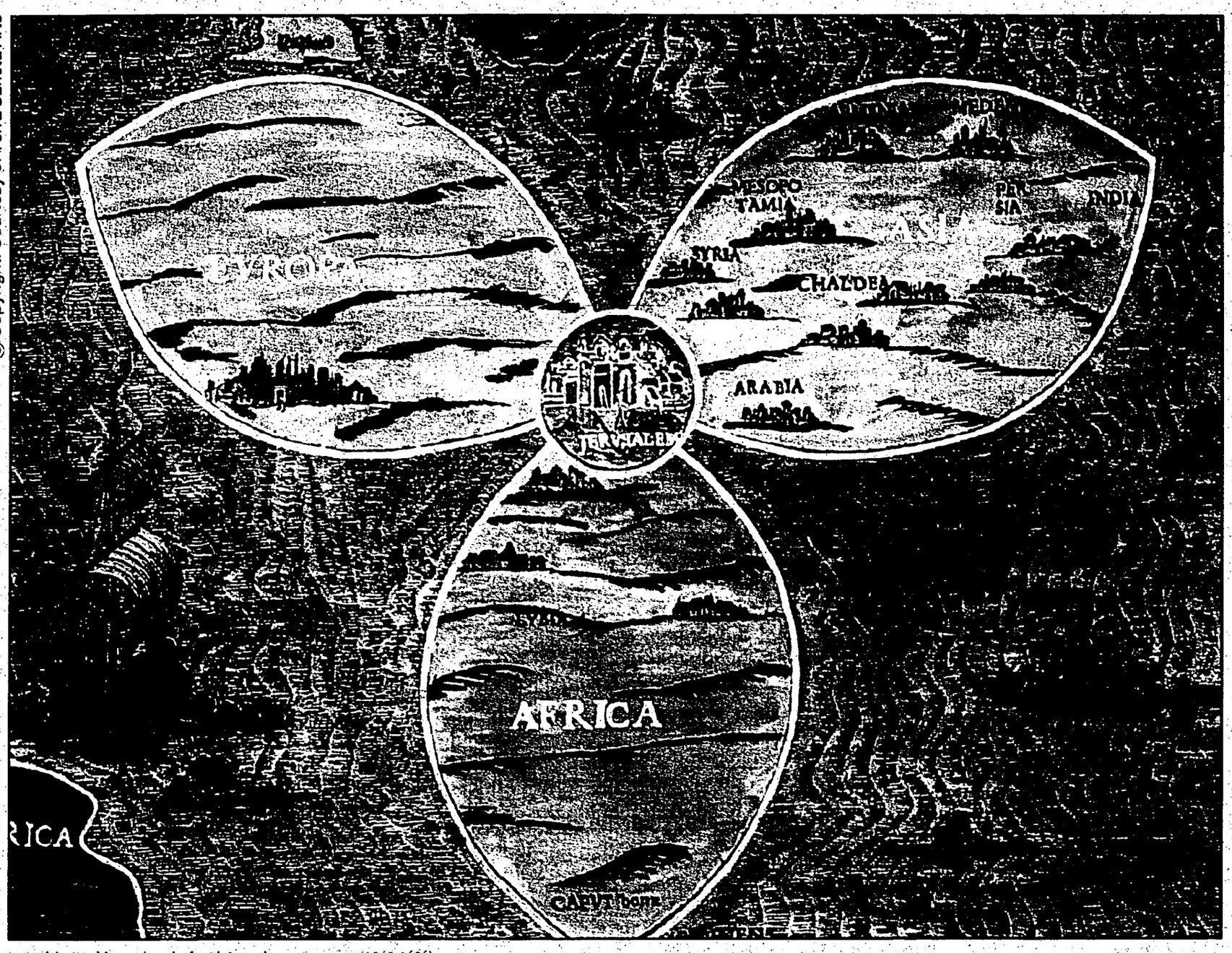

Map of the World as a cloverleaf, with Jerusalem at its centre (1545-1606)

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COVER STORY

SUDDENLY, IT'S RAINING JEWS

Soviet and Ethiopian immigrants, together and apart: The last week of May saw the largest-ever weekly immigration — almost 19,000 Jews Harari, Zoom 77, Silberman

Yossi Klein Halevi

As immigration hits record heights, the joy of ingathering is tempered by some troubling questions

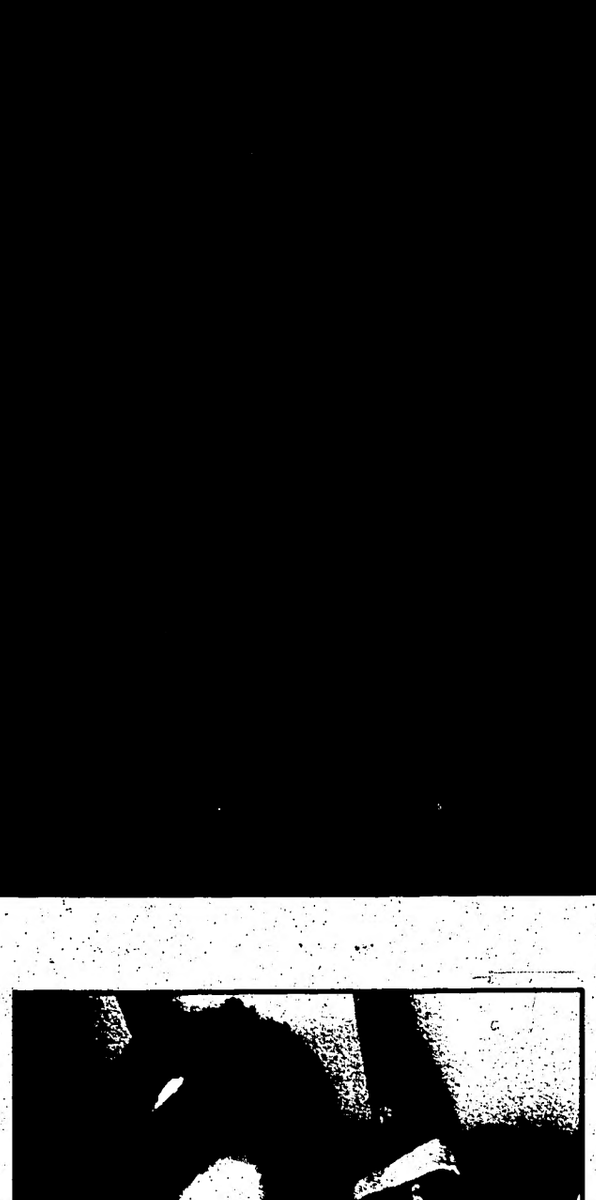
Suddenly everyone wants to move to Israel; at least that's how it seems. In the last week of May alone, almost 19,000 immigrants arrived in the country, the largest weekly total in history. And that is just the beginning; officials are bracing themselves for as many as 50,000 Soviet Jews in June, more by far than in any previous month since the founding of the Jewish state.

For Israelis, who had long since given up the dream of mass immigration, the current aliyah seems almost miraculous. "Every day more people fall out of the skies," remarked Jerusalem housewife Dalia Landau. "Suddenly, it's raining Jews."

It is not just the numbers that amaze. For the first time since the early years of the state, whole communities are coming en masse. In April, all 300 Jews of Albania arrived; in May, "Operation Solomon" ended the Ethiopian diaspora. Less dramatically but no less decisively, the Jews of Bulgaria are uprooting themselves and heading for Israel. In recent months, 1,000 Bulgarians have settled here, and most of the 4,000 others are expected within the next three years.

Scarcely a week seems to go by without Israelis awakening to news of yet another lost tribe on the road to Zion. On May 29, Foreign Minister David Levy announced that diplomatic efforts were under way to rescue the remaining 4,000 Jews of Syria and the 1,000-plus Jews of Yemen. At the same time, the government is debating a new Ethiopian airlift for the thousands of Jews who say they were coerced into converting to Christianity and now want to reunite with their families in Israel.

Immediately following "Operation Solomon," Defense Minister Moshe Arens declared that it was official government policy to rescue endangered Jewish communities, wherever they may be. The 30,000 Jews of Iran are certainly high on the government's list. Sephardi activist Mordechai Ben-Porat announced



93 percent of Israelis have a "favorable impression" of the Ethiopians Flash 90

on June 2 that efforts were under way to rescue 250 Kurdish Jews who had remained behind when the rest of the community immigrated to Israel in the early 50s and whose whereabouts had been unknown until now. In mid-May, Iraq reportedly began issuing exit visas to the 150 or so Jews of Baghdad. And in early June, a letter arrived at the Israel Museum from a Peking resident who claimed he was a Jew and sought help to immigrate to the homeland of his fathers.

Not everyone is fleeing persecution or oppressive regimes. About 500 South Americans are arriving every month, most of them from economically troubled Argentina. Others from Eastern Europe are reuniting with long lost relatives. Israel Radio recently broadcast a report that 2,000 Polish Jews were about to emigrate. The rumor turned out to be false, but the fact that it was broadcast at all reflected the heightened Israeli anticipation that world Jewry, or at least its non-Western fringes, is on its way home.

Religious Israelis speak of a messianic "ingathering of the exiles," secular ones less ambitiously of a renewal of Zionism. And despite the overwhelming numbers, most Israelis seem to want more. Says 28-year-old Jerusalem cabbie Rami "Rambo" Miles: "Too many Jews? That's the Arabs' fear and our hope."

THE JERUSALEM REPORT POLL

85 percent would take a drop in living standards to help absorb immigrants

Eighty-five percent of Israelis believe the state should help in the absorption of new immigrants even if this means a lowering in their own standards of living, according to a new poll carried out for the Jerusalem Report by the Guttman Institute of Applied Social Research.

The telephone survey, of a representative sample of 500 Israeli Jews at the end of May, found that the proportion strongly affirming that aliyah is vital to the nation has increased from 70 to 82 percent within the past year.

And almost half the respondents (48 percent) say that they are "doing something to help absorb Russian immigrants," twice the 25 percent who said so in the summer and fall of last year.

Almost everybody (93 percent) has a favorable impression of the Ethiopian immigrants, and a substantial majority (76 percent) is favorably impressed by the Russians. ❑

WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE JEWS WHO ARE COMING?

Response	From Russia	From Ethiopia
Very Favorable	20%	41%
Favorable	56%	52%
Not so favorable	20%	6%
Not at all favorable	4%	1%

ATTITUDES TOWARD ALIYAH

	Is aliyah vital to the state?	Do you agree that the state help absorb Russian immigrants even if it affects your family's standard of living?	Are you doing something to help absorb Russian immigrants?"	How prepared is the state to absorb aliyah?
A great deal	82%	37%	19%	6%
Somewhat	14%	48%	29%	16%
Very little	2%	11%	24%	46%
Not at all	2%	4%	28%	32%

IMPRESSIONS OF RUSSIAN ALIYAH, BY ETHNICITY

	Israeli-born 3rd generation	Israeli-born Eastern origin	Israeli-born Western origin	Born in East	Born in West
Very favorable or favorable impressions	73%	64%	73%	75%	86%

PLURALISM VS. MELTING POT

	Ethnic groups should preserve their identity and customs	Group differences should make way for unified Israeli culture
Total	47%	53%
Religious	58%	42%
Traditional	44%	56%
Secular	38%	62%

Until now Israeli anxieties have focused on the economic price of absorbing the estimated one million immigrants expected within the next three to five years. The country's infrastructure is being strained to the limits. It is now routine to find 40 children in a classroom; and hospital facilities are increasingly crowded. As the immigration continues, the struggle over Israel's already meager budgetary resources will almost certainly intensify.

Still, after more than a year of false starts, the government has begun to seriously confront the absorption crisis. The bureaucratic logjam has been broken and the largest housing boom in the country's history is in progress, with 97,000 apartments under construction. Progress on the job front is less impressive, but the government has finally developed an employment plan which, it claims, could produce 25,000 new jobs.

Most Israelis believe that the country will muddle through the economic problems created by the new aliyah; some, though, are increasingly concerned about how the influx may affect the country's delicate social balance and evolving national identity.

Absorption Committee Chairman Michael Kleiner with an Ethiopian 'kes': Inciting xenophobic fears? Scoop 80

No mass immigration has been less recognizably "Jewish." The Soviets have been severed from world Jewry for three generations; the Ethiopians, for perhaps three millenia. "I'm glad we rescued the Ethiopians," says one Tel Aviv man, "but I don't think they're really Jews."

While the Ethiopians may not look to many Israelis like family, the black Jews have kept a deep religious faith and emotional link with Israel. But the Soviets — by far the largest component of the current wave — are the least Jewishly identified immigrants Israel has ever known, both in terms of their historical memory and the actual number of non-Jews among them.

Other immigrations — notably the Bulgarian wave in the late 40s and the Polish in the mid-50s — have brought non-Jewish spouses into Israel. But those numbers were miniscule compared to now. The Interior Ministry estimates that about 5 percent of Soviet immigrants are non-Jews; the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee chairman, Michael Kleiner of Likud, puts the number at closer to 30 percent. The Ministry of Absorption believes that number may be even higher. For the first time in Israel's history, tens of thousands

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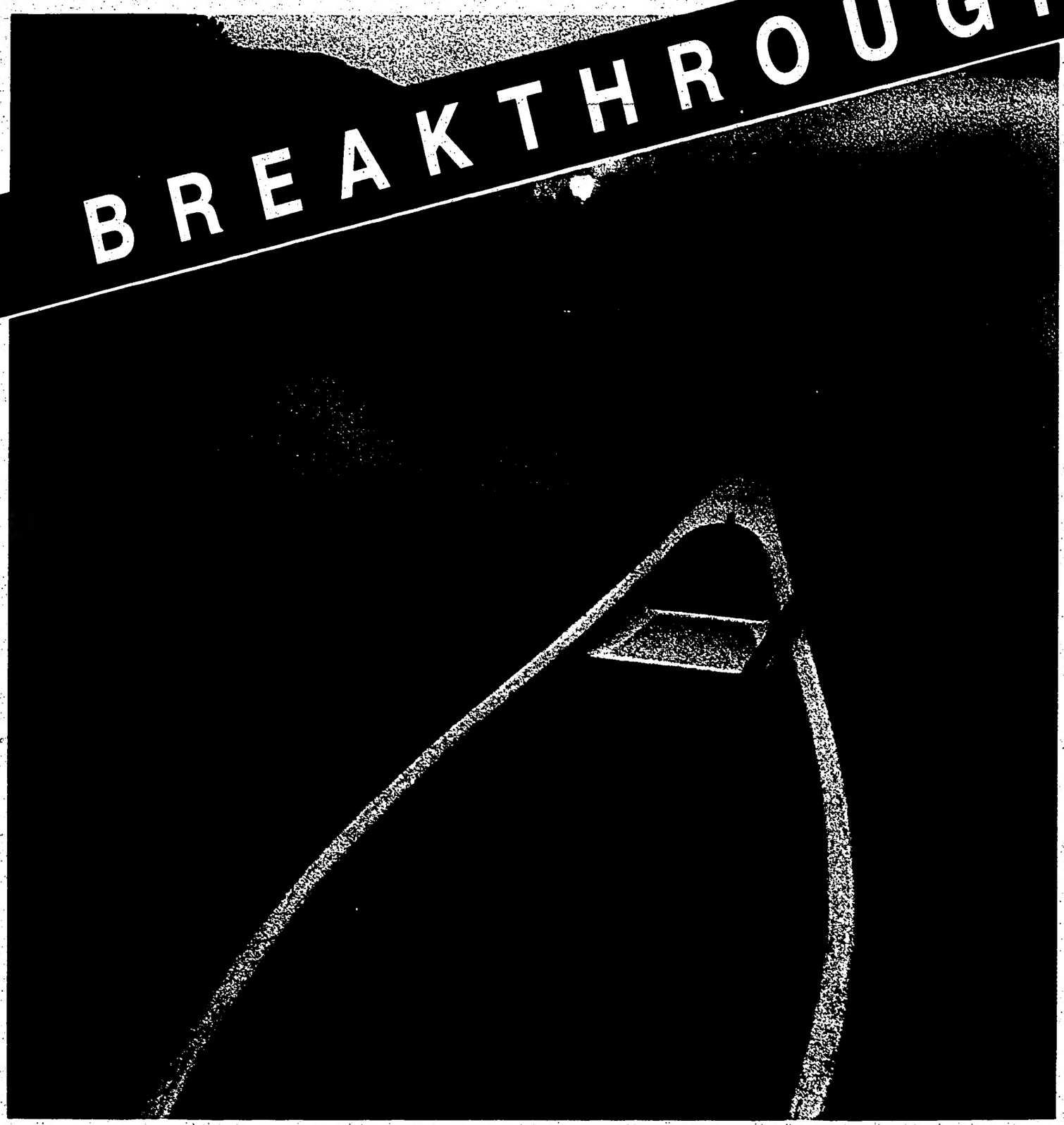

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of non-Jews are arriving not as tourists but as immigrants.

Anyone with a single Jewish grandparent can claim automatic citizenship under the Law of Return. "Anywhere between 5 million and 7 million Soviet citizens are legally eligible to come here," says Kleiner. Of those, he adds, perhaps two and a quarter million are Jews.

Some accuse Kleiner of inciting xenophobic fears. "It is absurd to speak of millions of non-Jews coming," says Eduard Kuznetzov, editor of the mass circulation Russian-language weekly Vremya (Truth), and himself the son of a mixed marriage. "Perhaps they will create a Russian non-Jewish minority here. But I think that our country is strong and healthy enough to have minorities, just like any other country."

There is little cultural difference between the Jews and the non-Jews among Soviet immigrants. In one recent poll, nearly 85 percent could not identify a single book of the Bible; nine out of 10 had never heard of a seder. Mikhail Agursky, a Hebrew University sovietologist, warns that without intense Jewish education, large numbers of Soviet newcomers will be culturally unassimilable.

Daniel Elazar: 'Sephardim are worried' ©cooper

"We may have Russian ghettos whose inhabitants will be completely alienated from the most basic values of the state," he says.

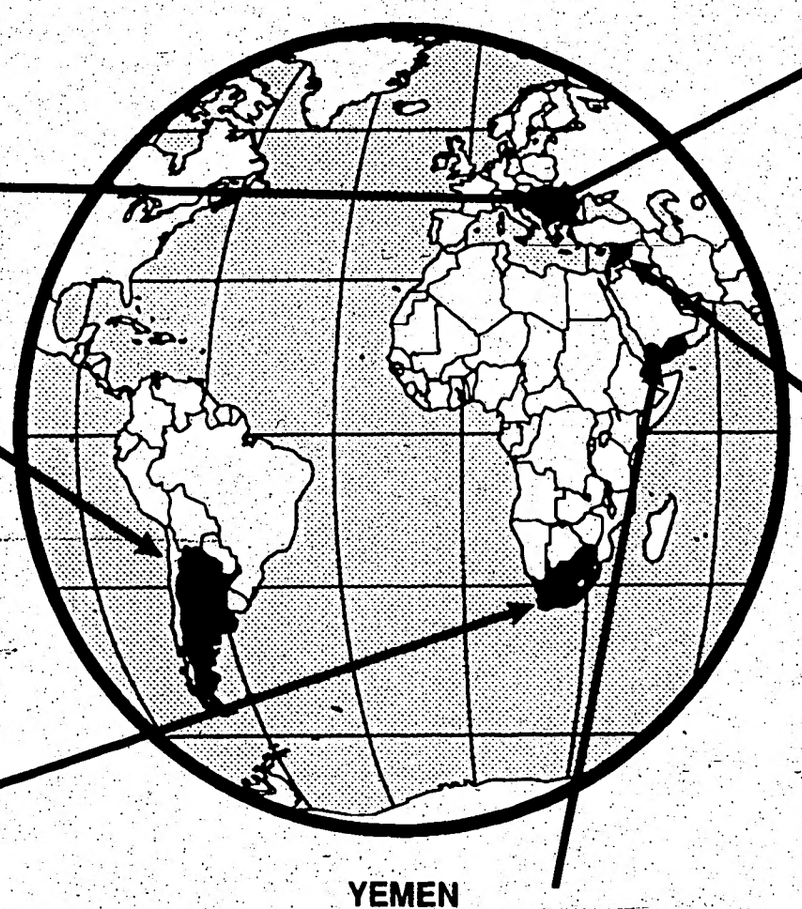
"Soviet teenagers don't understand democracy at all," according to Ephraim Sneh, head of the Golda Meir Association, which promotes education toward democracy). "They confuse democracy with anarchy and reject any authority."

During the 1980s, about 150,000 immigrants arrived in Israel — fewer than in any decade since the 1920s. For many Israelis, the absence of mass immigration was yet another sign that the country had gone into irreversible decline. Few appreciated the fact that the low immigration rate allowed Israel's ethnically heterogeneous society to begin to coalesce.

It was during this time that the country's Sephardi population joined the po-

TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY

Where will the next waves of immigrants come from?



BULGARIA

Although there is no overt anti-Semitism, the gates are open now and the approximately 4,000 Jews — many relatively well-to-do professionals — want out. Destination: invariably Israel. Young people see no future in Bulgaria and more than 1,000 have arrived in Israel in recent months on direct Sofia-Tel Aviv flights, many to join relatives in the closely-knit Bulgarian communities of Jaffa and Bat Yam.

ARGENTINA

Slightly fewer than 2,000 immigrants a year have come to Israel in the past two years, the rate rising and falling in parallel with the economic conditions facing the 220,000 Jews still in Argentina.

SOUTH AFRICA

Some of the 100,000 Jews feel caught between black anti-Zionism and an anti-Semitic white backlash as apartheid laws are dismantled. Others lack confidence in the political and economic stability of South Africa in transition from white minority government to black majority rule. Over the past decade about 20,000 have left, mostly for English-speaking countries. To date, immigration to Israel has been in the low hundreds per year.

HUNGARY

There is a prospect of large-scale immigration from this Jewish population of 100,000, the fourth largest in Europe. With Communist domination over, there is freedom to return to Jewish roots — and also less restraint on anti-Semitism. So far, annual immigration to Israel has been in the low hundreds.

ELSEWHERE IN EASTERN EUROPE

There is a slow, unrestricted trickle of immigration from Poland (community: 6,000-8,000) and Czechoslovakia (10,000-12,000 Jews). Rumania's 18,000 Jews are having little trouble getting out, and the monthly aliya rate now averages about 100.

SYRIA

The 4,000 Jews are not free to leave. They are closely watched, their letters opened and their phones tapped. Two families were recently caught escaping across the Turkish border and the men are now in jail.

On May 29, Foreign Minister David Levy asked visiting American Senator Rudy Boschwitz, who played a key role in rescuing Ethiopian Jewry, to help. U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has discussed Syrian Jewry's plight with President Hafiz Asad. The Israelis want the American administration to link aid to Syria to the human rights issue.

YEMEN

1,300-1,600 Jews are left in outlying areas, far from Sana'a, the capital, under the protection of local sheikhs. Their movements are restricted. Many are silversmiths fallen on hard times, because of low tourism levels. Children are schooled in Yiddish by Satmar hasidim, the only Jews allowed in. The chances of Yemen's Jews leaving for Israel depends on international pressure.

Compiled by Leslie Susser

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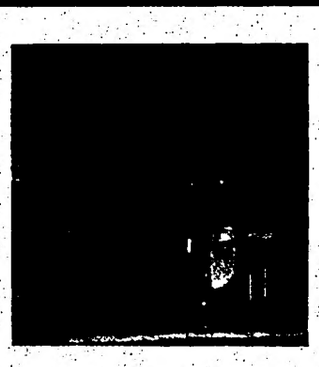

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litical, economic and cultural mainstream. As late as the mid-80s, social commentators were warning of an imminent Sephardi-Ashkenazi civil war; today, the ethnic issue, while not completely resolved, has receded. "There are no longer Sephardim, only Israelis," says journalist and social activist Ben Dror Yemini.

Still, the arrival of hundreds of thousands of Soviet immigrants — some 75 percent of whom are professionals or trained technicians — has raised fears of the renewal of ethnic tensions. "Sephardim are worried," says author Daniel Elazar. "Those who have just crossed the middle-class threshhold are in danger of being pushed back to the end of the line by the new immigrants."

Adds sociologist Eliezer Jaffe: "If we use the Russian talent in the right way, then everyone in the society will benefit. If we don't, the Russians and the Sephardim will fight over the crumbs."

There are other potential friction points. One is the possibility that, with

'Ethiopians aren't discriminated against, but they are often treated like primitives' Kern

the rescue of Ethiopian Jewry, the country has imported its first black-white problem. Israel now has a black population of 37,000, which occupies the lowest social and economic rung in the country's Jewish population. "I'm afraid of black ghettos in this country," says a Tel Aviv media consultant.

The enthusiastic welcome accorded the Ethiopians, and indeed, the rescue

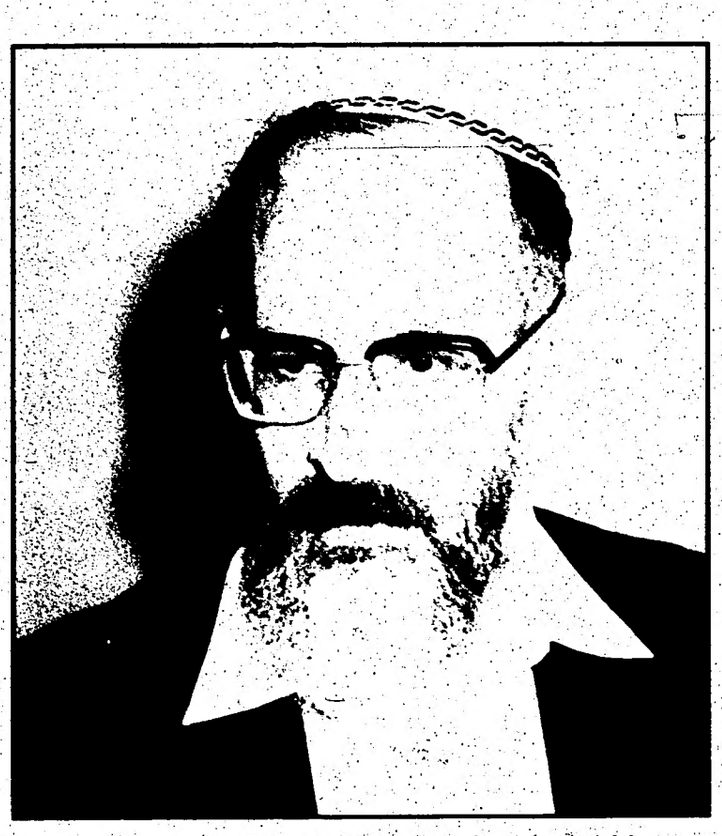
IN SEARCH OF THE TEN LOST TRIBES

Jerusalem Rabbi Eliyahu Avichayil has spent the last 20 years searching the earth's remote corners for the 10 lost tribes of Israel.

And Avichayil, who is the head of an organization called Amishav (My People Returns), is now insisting that he has managed to track them down.

Avichayil and his emissaries have traveled to Afghanistan, China, Tibet and India and returned with reported sightings of millions of once and future Jews.

"We still have more questions than answers about most of these groups," says Avichayil, "but what we do know is interesting enough to make us continue the search." At present, indeed, Avichayil is busy organizing another expedition to Afghanistan.



Rabbi Avichayil: 'Someone has to do this work'

Avichayil's most sensational claim is that the estimated 15 million Pathan tribesmen of Afghanistan, the guerilla fighters who defeated the Soviet army in the 80s, are long-lost Jews. In his recent book, "The Lost Tribes in Assyria," he offers dozens of accounts by Afghani Jews now living in Israel, of Muslim Pathans who wear amulets inscribed with the words "Hear O Israel." Pathan women are also said to light candles on Friday night. One Afghani Jewish emigre claimed that his father had met with the Pathan king, who said his tribe was descended from the tribe of Benjamin.

Perhaps Avichayil's most promising find is the Shinlong tribe, whose members, estimated to number one to two million, live in India and Burma. About 20 years ago, he says, a religious leader among the Christian Shinlongs began preaching that the tribe was in fact the long lost Israelite tribe of Menashe. About 5,000 Shinlongs accepted the claim and began following Jewish rituals. Avichayil visited them in India and supplied them with Jewish books and ritual objects.

Among Avichayil's other accomplishments is the conversion of 91 Peruvian Indians to Judaism. The Peruvians were not lost tribesmen but simply attracted to Judaism. Avichayil helped bring them to Israel, where they moved last year to the West Bank settlement of Elon Moreh.

Avichayil's latest exploit, earlier this year, was a trip to Portugal to convert 64 purported descendants of Marrano Jews. "There are thousands of others like them in Portugal," he says. "Now they will have a synagogue and a rabbi, and their community will grow."

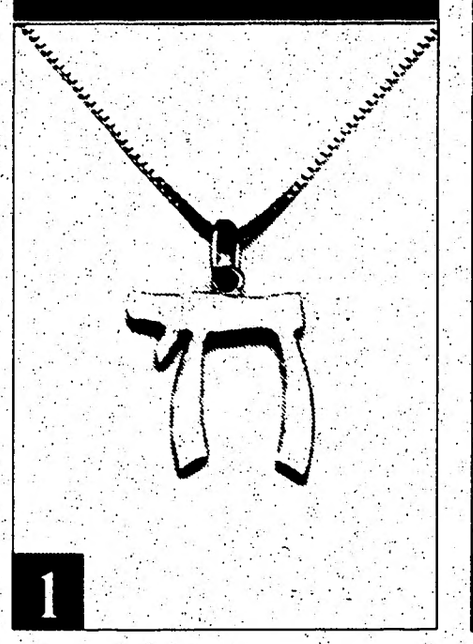
Rabbi Avichayil, 59, who is Orthodox, hasn't been encouraged by his rabbinical colleagues, but neither has he encountered open opposition.

"Someone has to do this work," he says. "We are living in the time before the appearance of the Messiah. Soon there won't be a single Jewish soul left outside the borders of the land of Israel." ❑

Yossi Klein Halevi

Symbols of Solidarity

Chai



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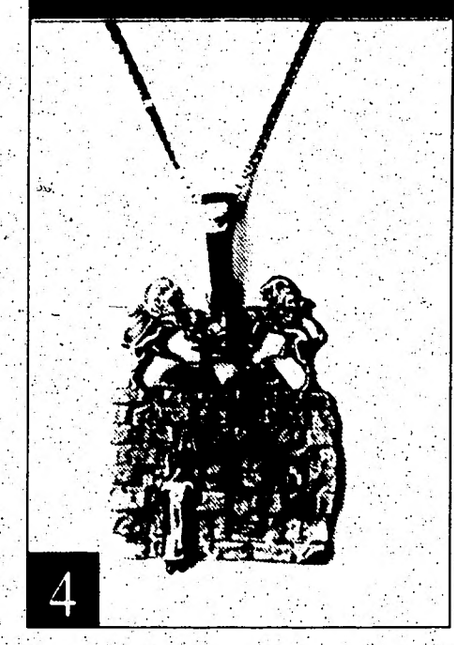

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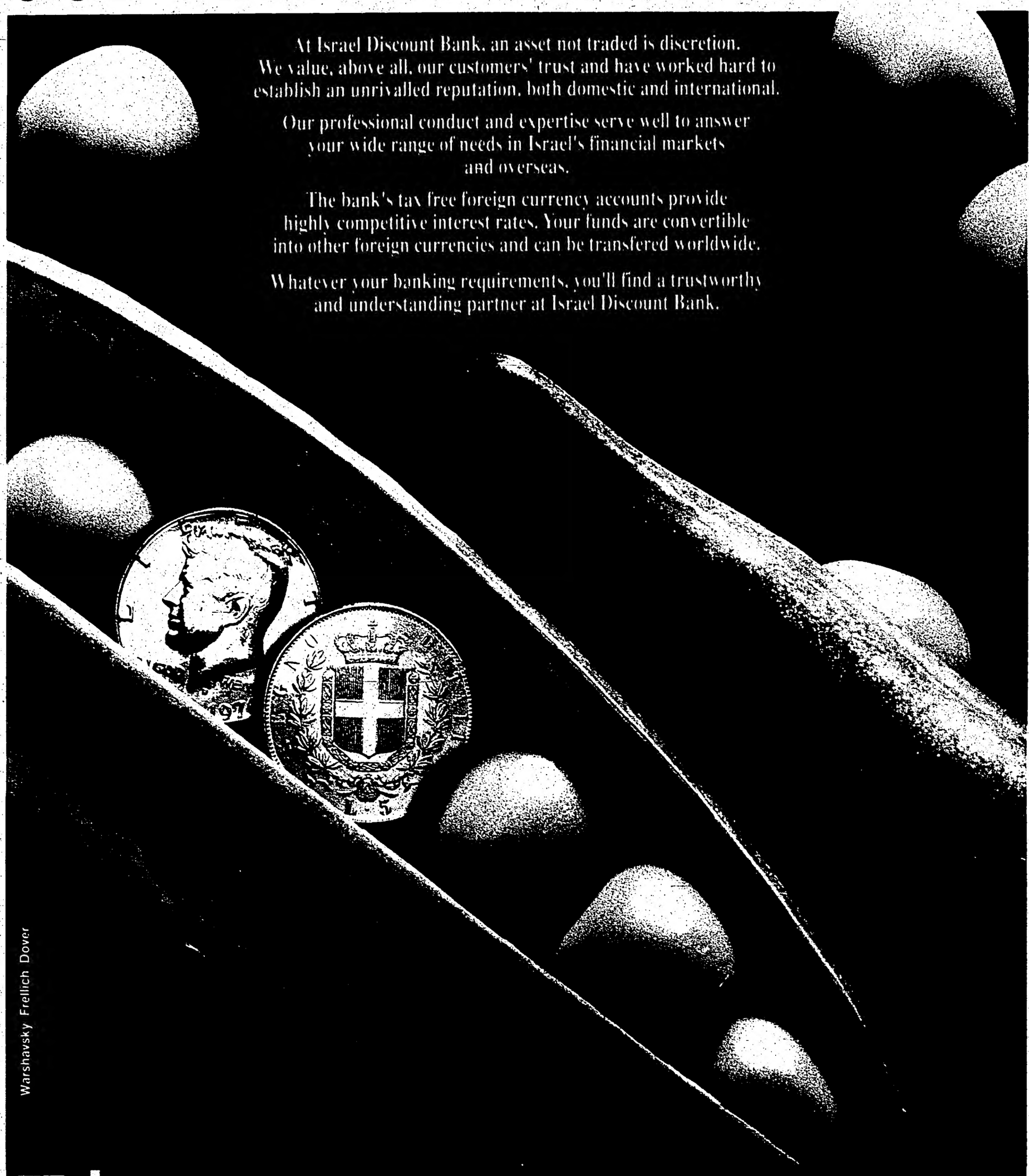

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mission itself, demonstrate a color-blind attitude on the part of the government and most Israelis. Still unfamiliarity sometimes leads to insensitivity. "Ethiopians aren't discriminated against, but they are often treated like primitives," says social worker Dan Budowski. He recalls how an Israeli journalist lifted an Ethiopian woman's breast from her dress to photograph her nursing her child. "He would never have dared to do that to a white woman," Budowski says.

Ironically, one source of racial tension may be the Russian immigrants. Recently a group of drunk Soviet newcomers cursed and assaulted a young Ethiopian soldier in Ashkelon. Although such violent incidents have been rare, there is concern that tensions could increase. "The average Soviet citizen is very racist," says Kuznetzov. "Many immigrants have trouble understanding how black Ethiopians can be their relatives. If they have to compete with them for apartments or jobs, racist feelings could emerge."

Sociologist Jaffe is more sanguine. "The more the Russians become Israeli and learn about their Jewish identity, the more they'll strengthen their common bonds with other Jews, including Ethiopians," he says.

Could the Soviet immigrants prove a source of racial tension? GPO

Many share Jaffe's philosophical attitude; every previous wave of immigrants have brought problems which once seemed insoluble. Moreover, there is a sense that today's newcomers will be a source of demographic, economic and cultural strength. But as the deluge of Jews continues, others wonder if it may not erode Israel's hard-won sense of identity and cohesion. Only one thing is certain. For the foreseeable future it will continue to rain Jews, and Israel, founded as a homeland and a refuge, has no intention of opening its umbrella. ❑

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THE IMPOSSIBLE MOMENT

Natan Sharansky

Immediately after the Shabbat meal on Friday, May 24th, I was driven to a military base near Ben-Gurion Airport. Soon after, for the second time in my life, I found myself virtually the only passenger on a huge airplane. Now, as then, there were only four people sitting around me. This time, they were colleagues, Israeli journalists, and we were bound for Ethiopia.

Five years ago, the four had been KGB men, my honor escort on the journey from a Soviet prison to freedom. In that moment of release, when suddenly after nine years of struggle and prayers I was lifted from the darkness of the gulag, I wasn't told where they were taking me. But the sun, like the finger of God, pointed the way: It was a flight to freedom. They had taken away all my belongings — including my prison uniform, which had grown so familiar and comfortable — giving me instead ungainly and clammy civilian clothes. But one item, a little book of Psalms given to me by my wife Avital, which was my companion in all the years of the gulag, I had at the last moment saved from the hands of the KGB guards. It kept me warm. Through the triumphant Psalms of King David, God was bringing me the joyous news: You are free, you have won, you are going to the land of Israel.

Flight to freedom: 'No black or white, left or right, but one *Am Yisrael*' Galili / Ha'aretz

In the coming hours, I would land in Berlin, be reunited with my wife in Frankfurt, arrive in Israel and pray at the Western Wall. Throughout, I was surprisingly calm, confident: as is a person who has listened for the voice of God and relied on Him, and watches with rapture and without fear as events unfold and are fulfilled according to His great, unfathomable design.

Now, five years later, as I flew in the dark toward Addis Ababa on an El Al plane whose markings had been painted over, I was suddenly seized by questions and doubts: Why was it so important to me to be on this particular flight to Ethiopia? So much so that I had insisted my editor send me, even on the Sabbath?

It is difficult to imagine two Jewish communities more disparate than those of the Soviet Union and Ethiopia: white and black; a professional class defined by 20th-century culture and a society closer to the ancient world; the most isolated spiritually from world Jewry and the most isolated geographically; one group almost totally assimilated, the other preserving its Judaism even after centuries of being cut off; a Jewishness at best, if nationality, defined by anti-Semitism, and a Jewishness above all religious; a people with almost no idea of Jewish communal life, and a people whose very survival and identity depend on a close tribal community.

Why, then, was I flying toward Ethiopia? Was it because I was intrigued by these Jews so different from me? Or was it in order to understand better the Israelis who were ready to put aside their differences, drop everything and rush to the rescue of these people at once so remote and so close? Was it perhaps to recover a sense of the purity of the Zionist dream which in the harsh light of the realities of daily life in Israel can seem more like illusion than dream?

Let there be no mistake: My five years in Israel have been full and happy. But they have also been years of descending from heaven to earth. The simple, clear lines of the struggle between good and evil have grown ever more blurred, and the cacophony of arguments and doubts has made it more difficult to hear the voice of God.

* * *

Below, Addis Ababa greeted us with scattered, frozen lights: a city under curfew. As I stepped off the plane, I was met by an astonishing sight: A human river in white flowed toward the aircraft. I stood paralyzed as the vast crowd streamed through the darkness. They moved calmly, unhurriedly. Everyone seemed to be supporting someone else: the men with biblical beards and patriarchal faces; the women in embroidered dresses, surrounded by children. The five-year-olds carried on their backs the one-year-olds. And on every forehead, a sticker bearing a number, so that families would not become separated. The crowd was contained by a rope, to ensure that no one would be left in the darkness of the land where they had lived for thousands of years. Israeli soldiers in civilian clothes and Jewish Agency personnel waved flashlights to guide the people toward the airplane. But these were only intermediaries. There was no need to search for analogies. I felt God Himself was leading the column, as in the Exodus from Egypt.

During the years of struggle for the Exodus from Russia the

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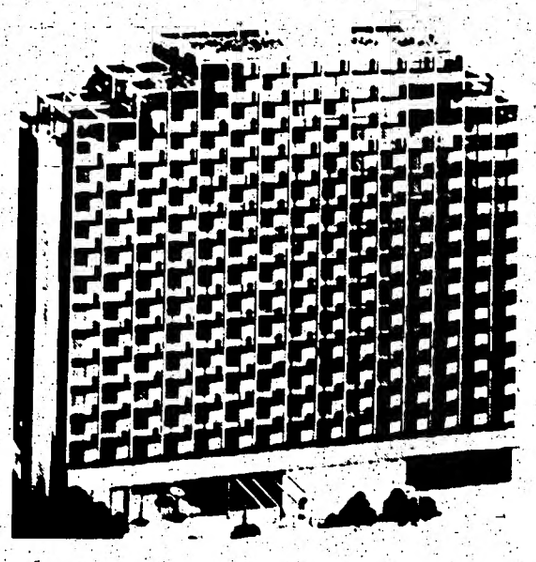

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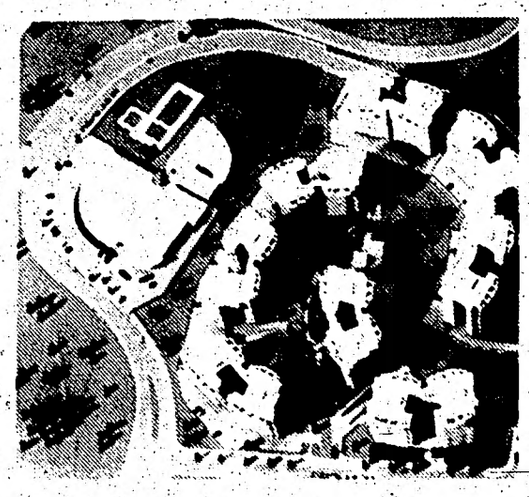

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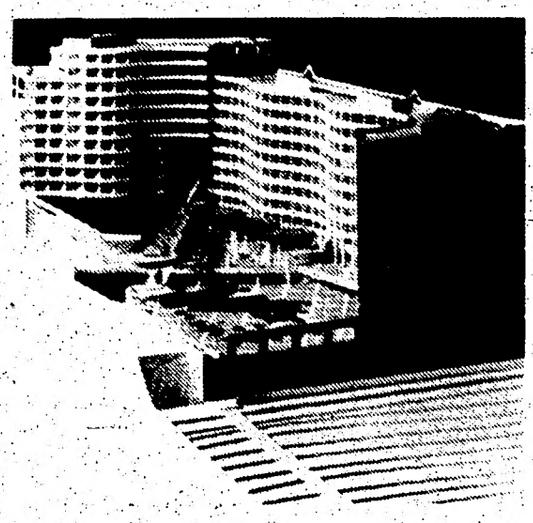

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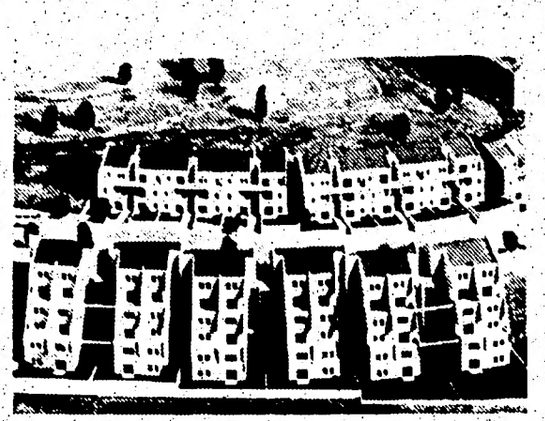

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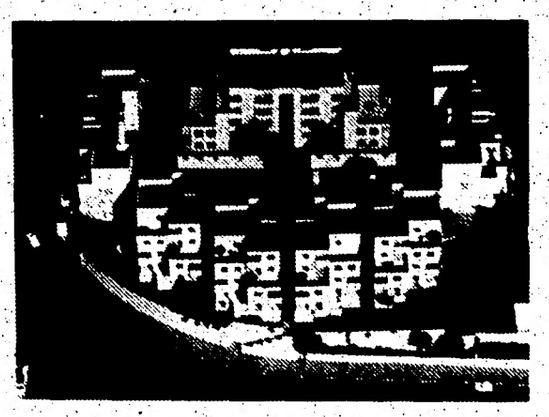

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An Israeli soldier guides the crowd: 'I felt God Himself was leading the column, as in the Exodus from Egypt' Alpert

evocation of the departure from Egypt sustained us, especially at moments of loneliness and dread. As I walked through the Moscow night with KGB tails following, or sat in front of a KGB interrogator who threatened death, or endured hundreds of days and nights in the cold of the punishment cell, I tried to remind myself of the larger picture. Your history did not begin with your birth or with the birth of the Soviet regime. You are continuing an Exodus which began in Egypt. History is with you.

It was not always easy to feel this. Sometimes I had to mobilize my whole imagination, summon all my inner resources, to break through the wall of prison. Modern history also came to my aid: Entebbe, when Israel sent planes to rescue Jews in the depths of Africa. The great sacrifice of Yoni — whose picture was on my wall until my arrest — and the daring of those with him. These were my personal guarantee that Israel would not forsake me, that I too would be rescued.

Now these two images fused. Toward us, across thousands of years, Jews moved in an unbroken line from Egypt, but this time I was among the Israelis standing by the empty airplane, in Africa, sent to bring them out. The whole struggle of the last two decades, of the last two millenia, flowed together until they converged and merged in this one picture.

* * *

The waters of the Red Sea part. Two fighting armies stop their war, Ethiopian soldiers resentfully look on as buses of Jews speed through the empty streets, and as one Israeli plane after another comes in to take Jews out. But with the departure of the last plane the waters join again, the heavens close and the war overtakes the country once more.

It took slightly more than half an hour to fill the plane's 200 seats with 400 Ethiopian Jews. Avital had told me: Don't behave like a journalist, help the people; only this way will it be a mission of saving lives, for which even Shabbat may be violated. So I set to work as a steward, distributing water and bread. The Beta-Israel were obviously hungry but were impressively serene. They displayed a noble sense of their own dignity for the entire four-hour journey home.

We shared only two words: shalom and Yerushalayim. But each time our eyes met, they were smiling, responsive. Sometimes I held and patted one of the clamoring children so their parents could open food parcels. But this was a pretext: I simply wanted more communication and contact. Clearly, this was their desire too. They were glad to share their children with me. Both sides looked for all kinds of tasks requiring exchanges. We were overwhelmed by our desire for intimacy.

Through all the events of that night, our passengers showed full trust in the messengers from Israel, and were calmly confident despite the astonishing events overtaking them. Again, this implacable confidence in the future reminded me of my own state of mind in the plane that took me from Russia. As I had then, they now experienced a pure rapture and knew no fear. They too left with almost no possessions. I had then two things which they did not: I had shoes, while many of them were barefoot; and I had my Book of Psalms — but they themselves seemed like figures come suddenly alive out of the Psalms. Their very journey was a psalm of rejoicing. I felt as though my own particular history was suddenly being shared by great numbers: I had come out of prison where I had been held as a political hostage, traded for whatever benefits the government could obtain. But here was a whole people who had been held against their will, pawns of a doomed regime.

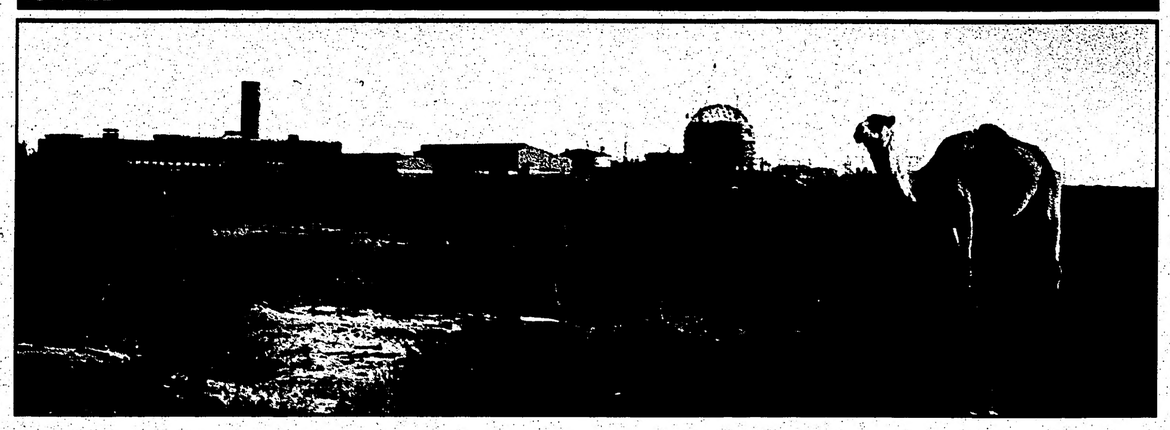
Again I was gripped by that sense of faith triumphant. For me, and for the other Israelis, journalists and crew, all the doubts and anxieties of daily life were abruptly erased by this sense of trust and faith. Our number included a kibbutznik and immigrants from Holland, Mexico and Rumania; an immigrant who had left Ethiopia on Operation Moses and was now serving as an interpreter; and a sabra who had lived some years in Germany but had returned to Israel ("When I first moved to Germany I thought how good it is when you don't care about the things happening around you; but when my daughter was born, I knew I had to return home"). Somebody started talking politics, and right away the arguments began and we heard the usual words: settlements, absorption, Shamir, Moda'i. But hardly had the squabbling begun before it faded away. It seemed insipid, inappropriate.

The sun rose. The plane started its approach to Israel. The pilot brought the plane low so we could see the land and it was announced in Amharic that below us was the land of Israel. We all began to applaud and never stopped during the whole descent. Israeli songs came over the loudspeakers and scenes of Israel were flashed on the movie screen even as they flashed by through the windows. Everybody was laughing and crying.

This, then, was the answer to the question of what had impelled me to make this brief, eternal journey. This was the moment I had come for. Here were no black or white, educated or unschooled, cynics or idealists, left or right, believers or secularists, immigrants or oldtimers. Here was one *Am Yisrael* returning to its land whose applause, singing and African ululating merged into one impossible and triumphant symphony. ❑

e host it's half empty.
ne guest it's half full.

ISRAEL



FOR SALE: DIMONA'S NUCLEAR KNOW-HOW

(Top) Low-profile: The Dimona Nuclear Research Center, under construction in 1960. (Above) The men publicizing the industrial park today: Riklis (left) and Seroussi

Rubinger, Hool

Peter Hirschberg

Israel's research center invites industry to profit from its expertise

Strangers used to approach the silver dome of Israel's main nuclear reactor, near Dimona in the Negev desert, at their own risk. But now, while the tightest security still prevails at the top-secret reactor itself, the Atomic Energy Commission's Nuclear Research Center has gone commercial.

There have been no festive opening ceremonies at the new Temed Industrial Park, a government-funded, multimillion dollar project set up at the suggestion of atomic scientists and center officials. But several companies are already working at the facility, only 5 km (3.1 miles) from the forbidding fence around the reactor complex. And a program to train and employ Soviet immigrant scientists there is under way.

Israel is as tight-lipped as ever about what goes on at the Dimona reactor. And when asked to respond to President George Bush's May 29 Middle East call for controls of nuclear arms and other weaponry, Jerusalem carefully stuck to its traditional line — that it won't be the first country to introduce nuclear weapons to the region.

In the past at the Dimona center, there have been a number of quietly-arranged joint projects with universities and industry. But now, the center is engaged in a concerted effort to widen the commercial applications of its research. A slick promotional brochure has been produced, advertising Temed as a place where potential investors can make use of "scientific inventions based on research, know-how and expertise accumulated" at the center.

From a distance, the dull-gray concrete building in the middle of the desert does not look like a high-tech facility. But the reactor's silver-colored dome and the perimeter fence are clearly visible across the wasteland. Major tenants of the 6,400 square meter structure are Rotem Industries, a government company developing civilian ventures from Nuclear Center expertise, and Dispomedics, a private firm that makes disposable needles and syringes for hospitals.

Temed's one building — a second 4,100 square meter structure is planned — is bustling with activity. The centerpiece on one floor occupied by Gomeh, a Rotem subsidiary, is a cylindrical incubator. "When doctors operate on a premature baby," explains Emanuel Riklis, the chief scientist for applications of both the Nuclear Center and Rotem, "they have to remove it from the incubator. This invention will enable surgeons to operate while the baby is still in the incubator." The perspex sides of the incubator slide down, yet the temperature, humidity and air-flow are kept constant. "There is no incubator like this anywhere in the world," he says.

In the Rotlex plant next door, another first has been developed — a deflectometer. The contraption tests such things as the smoothness of contact lenses in a saline solution. "Until now," says a technician, "the smoothness of contact lenses had to be tested in a dry state," changing the qualities of refraction.

Both developments, according to Riklis, are by-products of the nuclear center's research. But he does not elaborate.

On the second floor, a man in a brown shirt sits behind a desk in a room with blue-striped white walls, studying a wad of notes. Alexander Lifshits, who arrived in Israel a year ago from Siberia, was the first scientist employee of the park's "technological business-oriented incubator program." Lifshits, a mathematics graduate of Tomsk University, learned about the project from an ad in a Russian-language newspaper. He was interviewed in January. "For three months I did not hear, and I thought my chances were finished." In April, he was invited for more talks. Now he works in his specialty, computation of fluid mech-

(Right) Secretary Cheney at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv: Seeking arms control by agreement Magnes

anics. "I couldn't believe it is possible," he says, trying to control his excitement. "It is like a dream."

Lifshits is one of two scientists so far on the job. The goal, says Abraham Seroussi, retired director-general of the Nuclear Center and one of the "incubator program" founders, "is to have 50 Soviet scientists working here by the end of the year." Teams of five immigrants and one Israeli scientist will be assembled for particular projects; if economically viable, the product will be marketed, and profits shared with them. Five projects already have official sanction from the Trade and Industry Ministry, but Seroussi will not give details. "They are trade secrets," he says.

In Dimona, 9 km (5.5 miles) from the Temed park, 25 housing units have been set aside for the immigrant scientists and their families. The park is seen as a potential lifeline in Dimona, a town of almost 30,000 with 12-13 percent unemployment.

The town produces plenty of university graduates, says municipal spokesman Maty Hayoun. "But most leave Dimona as there is no work for them here." Dispomedic, he notes with satisfaction, has provided much-needed jobs for 60 townspeople.

For Ya'acov Ben-Shimon, the park also represents a way of attracting investors to town. Head of the Dimona Development Association, he sees it as a way of changing the town's image. "Outsiders view Dimona as a place of textile factories, where people don't like to work," he says.

A phone call interrupts him in midsentence. Ben-Shimon listens, then puts down the phone. "An Austrian businessman," he grins, "is interested in investing in the park."

Will the park become an industrial oasis in the midst of the Negev wilderness? Hayoun waxes optimistic: "The Nuclear Research Center would not have run with the project if they did not think it was going to succeed."

Seroussi is more cautious. "We have not officially opened the park yet," he says. "But we have passed the stage of creation. Now we're alive." ❑

HOW TO CONTROL THE ARMS RACE AND STAY ON TOP

Leslie Susser

Israel draws up its own agenda for arms control

Following President Bush's May 29 Middle East arms control initiative, Israeli officials are putting the finishing touches to proposals of their own, which cast a more ambitious net than the American ones.

Washington's goal is primarily to get the five permanent members of the Security Council (the U.S., the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China) to lay down ground rules for arms supplies to the region; Israel wants to close all potential loopholes via a grand conference of all supplier nations and at least some of the major Middle East purchasers. The U.S. is after a regional nuclear ban, whereas Israel views the nuclear problem in global terms. Finally, in contrast to the U.S. emphasis on weapons of mass destruction, Israel says all types of weapons must be involved, especially the Arabs' huge conventional arsenals which, Jerusalem maintains, pose the most immediate threat.

Following is a guide to the Israeli proposals:

Nuclear: A global approach aims for worldwide reductions and controls and a ban on sales of nuclear components to the region. Foreign experts say Israel could thus consolidate its nuclear edge of over 100 nuclear warheads. Cairo will reportedly accept Israel's nuclear advantage as part of an overall arms control agreement. Israel's approach stems from potential distant nuclear threats. A particular concern: Iran's $120-billion five-year plan designed to make Teheran a regional superpower and a member of the nuclear club.

Chemical and biological: Israel advocates adherence to international conventions banning these weapons and calling for their destruction. Defense Minster Arens told the cabinet on June 2 that he is now ready to sign the relevant conventions.

Missiles: Israel wants a total ban on missile sales to the region but harbors no illusions: Last month, officials note, North Korea sold Syria 36 Scud-C missiles, and Chinese M-9 surface-to-surface missiles are reportedly due in Damascus soon. Foreign sources claim Israel has its own sophisticated rocket-making capacity. The Jericho 2 is said to be "two generations" ahead of anything the Arabs have.

The U.S. is well aware that Israel will not easily be persuaded to forgo this advantage. Arens told Defense Secretary Richard Cheney, during his May 29-31 visit, that Israel's qualitative edge depends on continuing research and development.

Conventional weapons: Israel wants large reductions in the vast quanitities of tanks, planes and artillery in the region (Egypt and Syria alone have almost 10,000 tanks between them, to Israel's 3,860) and would be ready to offer mutual cuts. The U.S. argues that the five permanent Security Council members supply 90 percent of the region's weapons, so agreement among them could do much to curb the arms race. Israel points to other suppliers, such as Brazil, South Africa, Italy, Korea and the capital-starved East Europeans, with their Soviet arms surpluses.

Syria has already rejected the entire U.S. package as a ploy to maintain Israel's superiority. And privately, Israeli officials doubt whether much can be achieved until there is real peacemaking progress.

The hitch originates in a built-in structural imbalance in the Mideast power equation: Israel believes it must be strong enough to beat any combination of Arab countries, while potential Arab belligerents like Syria feel they must be strong enough to take on Israel alone. Thus, Housing Minister Ariel Sharon says all the Arab states *together* should be allowed as many weapons as Israel, while Syrian President Hafiz Asad says his country *alone* needs "strategic parity" with Israel.

Cheney took great pains to reassure his Israeli hosts that the U.S. would not force the issue. On the contrary: Prepositioning of U.S. equipment in Israel will continue, Israel will get 10 more F-15 fighters and Washington will pay 72 percent of the cost of further development of the Arrow antimissile missile. Challenged on this in Egypt, his next stop, Cheney retorted that countries that felt secure were more likely to make concessions for peace. ❑

SCHWIMMER IN DEEP WATER

***Profile* / Akiva Eldar**

Aviation pioneer faces a probe into missing 'Irangate' funds

The answering machine in the Schwimmer residence speaks English only — like Al Schwimmer himself, despite his 43 years in Israel. But this week there was only the answering machine. Its ever-elusive owner, the founder and former longtime head of Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI), was typically unavailable for comment.

Schwimmer, together with his associate, international arms dealer Ya'akov Nimrodi, is now under police investigation. The two are suspected of pocketing an estimated $2 million in 1985 from the money that changed hands between Iran, Israel and the U.S. in the complicated arms deals which became known as Irangate.

Four years ago, in an interview about the IAI's Kfir jet fighter, Schwimmer, known as "Mr. Aircraft Industries," explained, chuckling, that his wife and children were in charge of Hebrew-language contacts. It's all part of Schwimmer's remoteness from the Israeli scene, the air of mystery he cultivates so assiduously. He never troubled himself to learn the language even as head of IAI, Israel's largest industrial enterprise, with some 15,000 employees. For 16 years, beginning in 1951, Schwimmer was responsible for what would become the country's top export industry. Yet, interviews with him are extraordinarily scarce, and in most of the few photographs of him that exist, he appears to be avoiding the camera.

Al Schwimmer, captured in a rare photograph two years ago: Under investigation over a missing $2 million Hadashot

Schwimmer arrived in this country in 1947, and played a part at that time in flying in illegally purchased supplies and aircraft. He had the idea of establishing an aviation industry in Israel, a notion which then premier David Ben-Gurion found naive at best — and which also got him into hot water with Washington for unauthorized use of U.S. know-how. He drifted about the country, landing up at Shimon Peres's kibbutz, Alumot, in Lower Galilee. Peres, at the time Ben-Gurion's defense aide and in the senior echelons of the Defense Ministry, was captivated by Schwimmer's plan, and within a short time Bedek, IAI's forerunner, was overhauling European and American warplanes for the Israel Air Force. Civilian aircraft subsequently developed here on Schwimmer's initiative, like the Astra, Arava and Westwind, eventually brought Israel millions of dollars.

Schwimmer, now nearing 70, is always a welcome guest at IAI. Even after his retirement as chairman of the board in 1967, Schwimmer didn't let up. He jetted all over the world as a procurement consultant for commercial airlines, occasionally touching down at his north Tel Aviv penthouse or his Jerusalem apartment.

But his 1985 re-entry into arms deals got him into trouble with the U.S. again and deprived him of the anonymity he covets.

As Schwimmer tells it, in March 1985 Peres, who was prime minister at the time, called on his old friend for advice. Peres told his confidant that the U.S. administration had asked him to help secure the release of the head of the CIA's Beirut station, William Buckley, who had been kidnapped by Hizballah. Schwimmer proposed bringing in Ya'akov Nimrodi, who had been Israel's military attache in the Shah's Iran (and who later made a fortune from arms sales).

Peres adopted Schwimmer's proposal that he and Nimrodi would try to trade Buckley for the weapons urgently needed by Iran in its war with Iraq: Israel would supply Iran with the arms that America could not, for political reasons, and the Iranians would instruct the Hizballah to release Buckley. Peres knew an adventure of this kind would run into opposition or be leaked if it went through official channels. So Schwimmer and Nimrodi met with the exiled Iranian arms dealer Manoshar Gorbanifar and struck a deal involving 500 Tow anti-tank missiles in exchange for $5 million plus Buckley. But the U.S. got the Rev. Benjamin Weir back instead of Buckley who, it emerged, had been murdered by his captors.

In 1987 he granted this reporter a rare interview — at Shimon Peres's request — to explain why the Lavi fighter plane project was being halted. He claimed he had warned Peres early on that the Lavi would fail. Peres, who at first supported the project, heeded the warning too late.

But Schwimmer blocked questions with any bearing on Irangate. All he was willing to say was: "My judgment on the subject of Iran was excellent. In January 1986 (when his friend Peres was prime minister), I advised the government to get out of the Iran venture."

In fact, Schwimmer had been highly mortified when Peres put his terrorism adviser, Amiram Nir, in charge of the hostages-for-arms operation. (Nir was killed in a plane crash in Mexico in December 1988.) Questions still surround the payments made in the deal, and the Israeli police are sifting through documents relating to the roles of Schwimmer and Nimrodi.

Schwimmer's associates refuse to believe that he took any "brokerage fees" over his agreed expenses. He is not motivated by greed, they claim. Few know, they point out, that Schwimmer selflessly raised most of the funds for the campaign for a constitution in Israel. Lately, Schwimmer has been trying to revive the Soviet-America-Israeli aircraft project, bogged down after the death of its mediator, international tycoon Armand Hammer — a project for which he has won enthusiastic backing, as ever, from none other than Shimon Peres. ❑

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WHOSE FLESH AND BLOOD?

Elaine Ruth Fletcher

A Tel Aviv court hears Israel's first surrogacy case

They are an Israeli couple who finally have a seven-month-old baby after 20 years of infertility. She is an American surrogate mother, a born-again Christian from Iowa who wants her son back.

This week, the custody dispute was due to go before a Tel Aviv court in the first such surrogacy case to be heard in Israel.

The couple — call them Shlomo and Anet — want an Israeli court to determine custody of the child and authorize adoption proceedings. Their lawyer, Shlomit Deutscher, legal counsel to the Na'amat women's organization, argues that it is in the "best interest of the child" to have the case heard here.

Lined up on the side of the Iowa mother, Kathleen, are fundamentalist Christian groups that vehemently oppose surrogacy and are seeking the return of the baby to its natural mother, and to have the case heard in a U.S. court.

"I didn't think I would grow attached to the baby but I was wrong," said Kathleen in a telephone interview with The Jerusalem Report from her Iowa home.

For Shlomo and Anet, a clerk and a housewife who tried for 20 years to have a child, the surrogacy undertaking has involved a two-year ordeal and an outlay of more than $70,000, says Deutscher. That included moving to Florida where they had relatives, and reaching a contractual arrangement with Kathleen at the Infertility Center Inc., New York.

Kathleen approached Infertility, Inc. via a local newspaper advertisement offering a $10,000 fee.

"I was on welfare; I had an abortion and the surrogacy company told me this would be a good way to get over it," she explains.

Kathleen says she "flunked" a psychological test designed to determine if she could handle being a surrogate, but was introduced to the Israeli couple anyway. "They told me how they wanted a child really badly and I felt pressured.

"They also told me they were Christians," relates Kathleen, a Baptist, who says she was looking for a couple of similar faith. "Only later a psychologist told me that Jews don't believe in Christ."

Kathleen was artificially inseminated by Shlomo's sperm and a Florida court awarded Shlomo temporary custody of the unborn baby on the basis of paternity tests which Kathleen now contests, claiming she was having a relationship with her present husband at the time.

"During the pregnancy I tried to hide my feelings," she says. "I dedicated the baby to God, yet I felt funny about the whole thing. I thought it was someone else's baby growing inside me. It turned out to be my own flesh and blood."

The day after the baby was born last November, the Israeli couple arrived at the hospital in Denison, Iowa to discover that Kathleen had registered the man she married during the pregnancy as the father. She wanted to keep the baby. Six days later she changed her mind again — after her husband received a payment of $4,500 from Shlomo and Anet, in addition to the $10,000 fee.

The Israelis returned to Florida with the baby to begin court proceedings for permanent custody and adoption — but relations with Kathleen were deteriorating.

"Her husband was arrested for possession of an unlicensed weapon," says Deutscher. "They gave her more money, but she kept calling and making all sorts of subtle demands. When they stopped giving, they started to get telephone calls from other people — threats that if they didn't return the child something would happen to them." In March, Shlomo and Anet fled with the child to Israel.

Attorneys in the United States National Coalition Against Surrogacy claim the real reason the Israeli couple left the U.S. was fear the case would be moved from Florida to Iowa, after the organization began to back Kathleen's custody battle. The coalition has been pressuring Florida to crack down on alleged "adoption mills" for surrogacy cases. The State Attorney's office responded a month ago by launching an investigation into the activities of Florida lawyer Bob Jesinsky, who represented Shlomo and Anet as well as other couples seeking surrogate mothers.

"We are opposed to the sale of childbearing services. We don't want to see poor women as a breeder class for the wealthy," says Andrew Kimball, counsel for the coalition.

Dr. Carmel Shalev, an Israeli Ministry of Justice lawyer and author of "Birth Power: the Case for Surrogacy" (Yale University Press, 1989), says the issue is complex. "The question boils down to whether we are going to try to protect women from themselves, or allow them the choice to decide for themselves as autonomous, moral and rational economic agents."

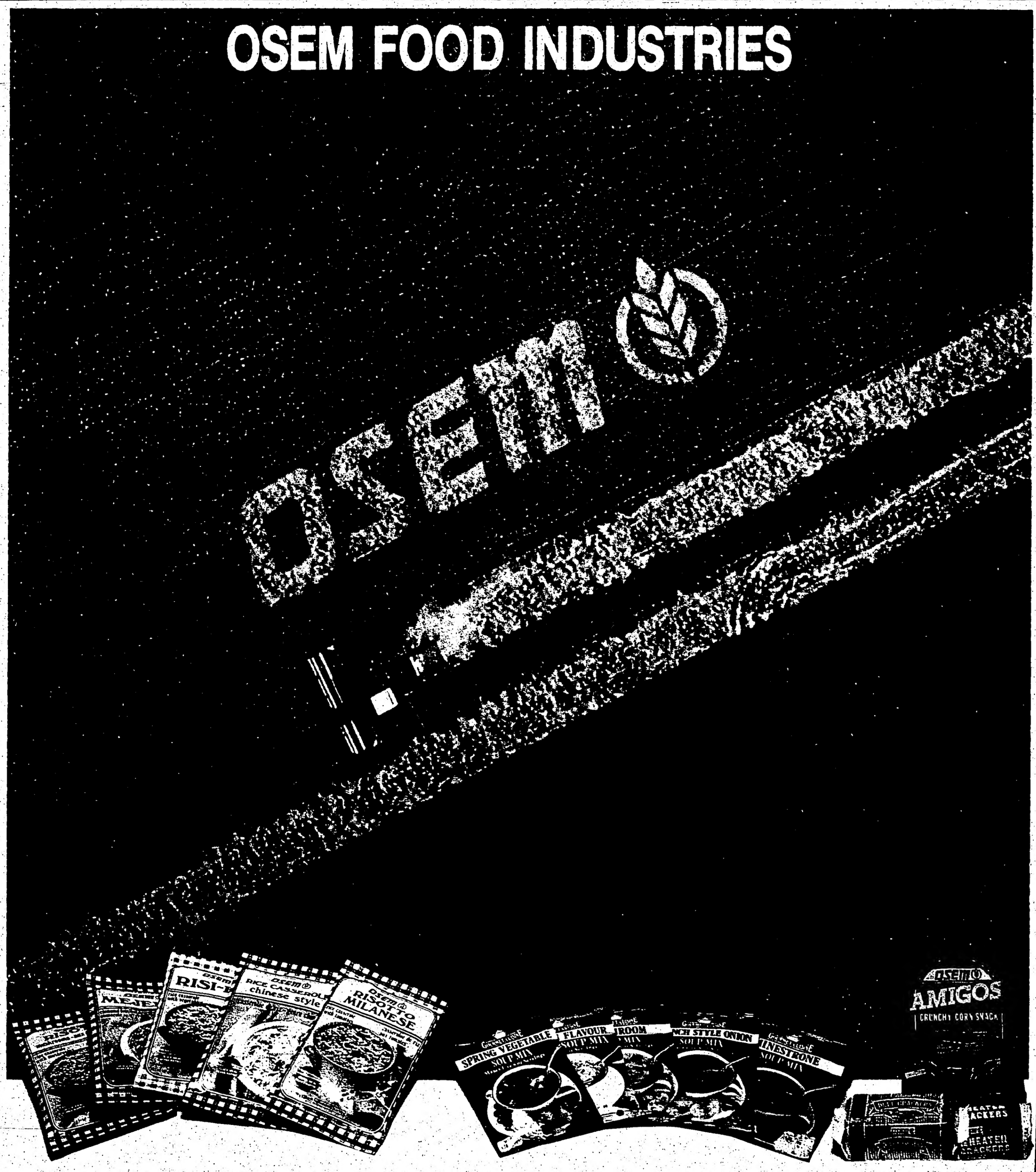
Still, she agrees, there are also real health and ethical dangers associated with surrogacy, as well as legal problems complicated by the inconsistency in laws in the U.S. and abroad.

In Israel, a new commission of the Health and Justice Ministries is about to launch a broad review of the whole surrogacy issue. There is no single law regulating the procedure here, although adoption law, religious law and Health Ministry regulations regarding in vitro fertilization and artificial insemination all touch surrogacy indirectly, says Shalev.

Besides the cases that hit the headlines — like that of an Israeli couple who won a battle in May to take their fertilized eggs to the U.S. to be implanted in a surrogate mother there — Shalev conjectures that a number of other Israeli couples have probably made quiet surrogacy arrangements in the United States.

"The best way to protect people may be to regulate surrogacy without banning it outright," she suggests. "Otherwise, those with resources will create a black market and go shopping for reproductive services around the world." ❑

OSEM FOOD INDUSTRIES



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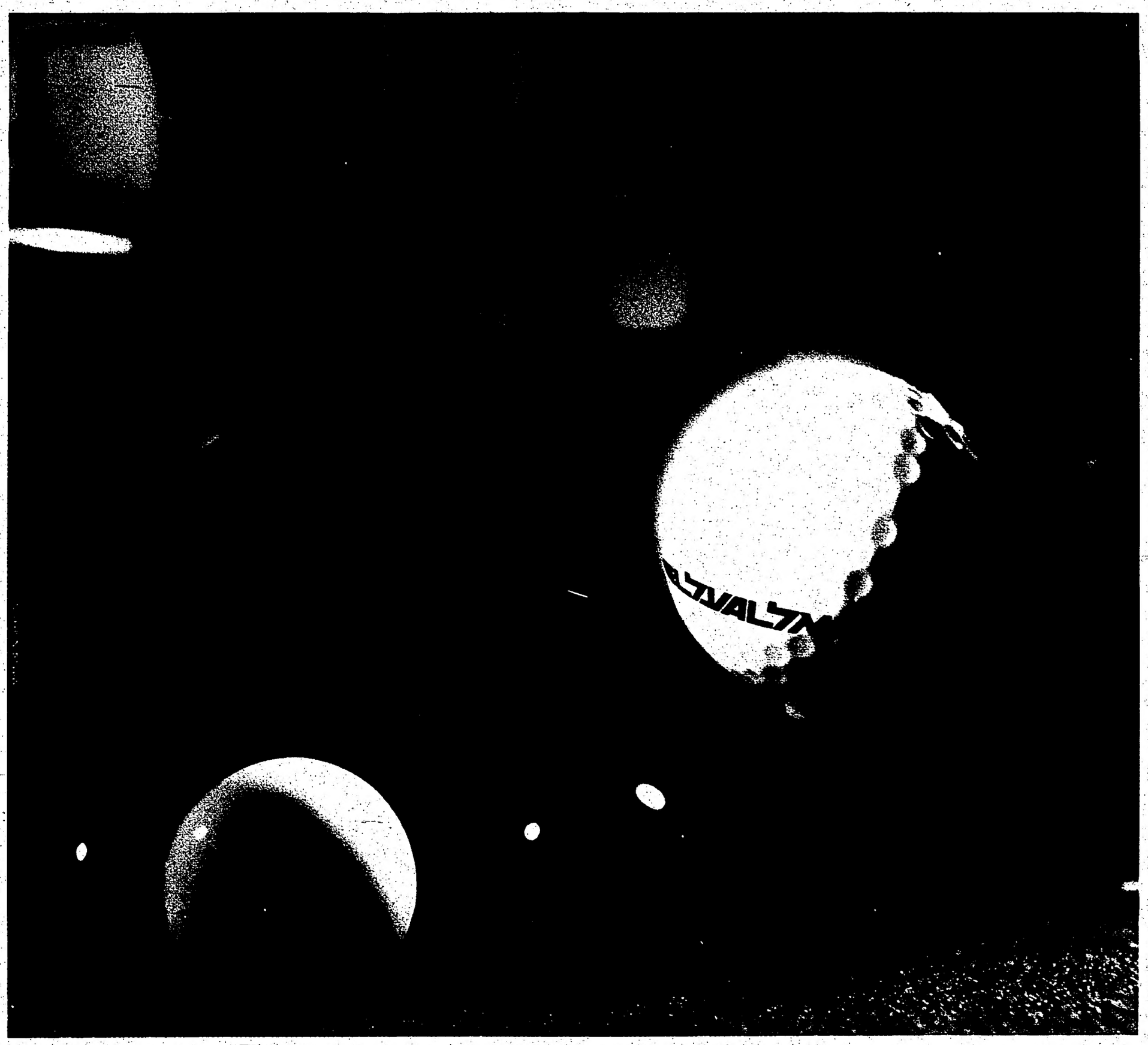

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הלב הממריא של אל על

Who *isn't* a Jew?

Ze'ev Chafets

The other night, at a penthouse party in North Tel Aviv, I overheard a couple of Israeli Mayflower types discussing the rescue of Ethiopian Jewry. "I've got no problem with bringing them," said the woman, who was wearing a designer dress and smoking a Kent 100. "But as long as we're going to have immigrants, I think we could get more productive ones."

"What's the matter with Russians?" asked her companion.

"Russians are OK, but they come without any money," she said. "I think we should try to bring Scandinavians."

"There aren't too many Scandinavian Jews," the man pointed out.

"So what?" said the woman. "Who says immigrants have to be Jewish?"

Good question. This year alone, Israel has taken in tens of thousands of non-Jewish Russians and, by the end of the decade, they could well number in the hundreds of thousands. Gentile immigrants are also coming from Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and other Eastern European countries. And a rabbinical delegation is on its way to Ethiopia to determine whether to airlift the Feres Mora — ex-Jews who converted to Christianity — to Israel; experts say they may number in the tens of thousands. Nor are these isolated cases. Under the provisions of the Law of Return, which determines immigration policy, there are presently millions of non-Jews around the world who are eligible for automatic Israeli citizenship — and there will certainly be millions more in the next few years.

Barry Goldwater (top), and Caspar Weinberger: One Jewish grandparent would be enough

The Law of Return, branded by the United Nations as a form of racism, is, in fact, probably the most liberal immigration law in the world. Under its provisions, any Jew, half-Jew or quarter-Jew can come to Israel along with his or her spouse and other close relatives. For example, a Baptist minister from Kansas who had a Jewish grandfather is eligible for automatic Israeli citizenship, and so are his wife and their children. Under present application, the minister could also bring his wife's parents and her children from a previous marriage — and their spouses and children as well.

This clearly was not the intent of the framers of the Law of Return. In a "never again" frame of mind, they adopted the broad Nuremberg criterion of Jewishness for immigration purposes, on the theory that anyone Jewish enough for Hitler was Jewish enough to be saved from the next Hitler. But what the legislators failed to foresee was that 1) Jews would intermarry in increasingly large numbers; and 2) many people would want to move to Israel, not out of Zionist motivation, or because of persecution, but simply to improve their economic or personal situations.

That is precisely the situation today. For the first time in three generations, the vast majority of Jews are free to go where they choose; only the Syrians, Iranians and Yemenites — less than 50,000 altogether — are being held against their will. The Jews who live in wealthy Western countries are not interested in coming to Israel. But Eastern Europeans, Latin Americans, Asians and Africans with some Jewish connection find themselves in the enviable position of being able to move to a relatively modern, relatively prosperous society that, by law, is required to take them in. And not just take them in, but feed and house them, provide them with health care and teach their children Hebrew. All this to be paid for, as usual, with crumbs from the Diaspora and, primarily, by Israeli tax shekels.

I believe that the time has come to rethink the Law of Return. We can't sit idly by when Jews, individually or as a community, are persecuted; but that doesn't mean that Israel is obliged to offer citizenship to impoverished, disaffected masses of people from around the world simply because they happen to have Jewish ancestors or relatives.

The truth is that the Law of Return, which made sense in the generation after World War II, no longer does. It should be revised in a way that allows Israel to regain control over its own immigration policy. This requires, at the very minimum, restricting the right of automatic citizenship to those who are demonstrably Jewish. This does not mean "Jewish" according to an Orthodox rabbinic definition; that would disenfranchise hundreds of thousands of American and European Jews who are active members of the Jewish people without benefit of an Orthodox conversion. But there should be some basic requirement, such as one Jewish parent or some kind of conversion. Non-Jewish relatives of immigrants should be admitted through an individual naturalization process, as is customary in other countries.

It is possible, of course, that a future wave of anti-Jewish persecution could once again threaten non-Jews with "Jewish blood"; in such a case the Knesset would be able to enact specific legislation granting automatic citizenship to non-Jewish victims of anti-Semitism.

For more than 40 years, Israelis have debated the question, "Who is a Jew?" At the moment, as far as immigration is concered, the answer seems to be, "Who isn't?" This approach is unrealistic, and potentially dangerous. It is time for the Knesset, in consultation with leaders and thinkers from the Diaspora, to come up with a new immigration law, one that takes account of the changes in the modern Jewish condition, and ensures that Israel will remain what it was founded to be: a Jewish state. ❑

MAPLE LEAF DRAG

Neal Sandler

Soviet aliyah may boost Israel-Canada trade

Canada has never ranked as one of Israel's major trading partners and trade between the two has been in the doldrums for years. But both sides would like to change this state of affairs and a boost may be on the way from an unexpected quarter: the influx of Soviet immigrants into Israel.

There is growing Canadian interest in trade with Israel, especially on the part of big contracting firms eager for a share of the vast sums being spent on housing for immigrants. And talks on removing trade barriers between the two countries are scheduled to resume later this year.

Israel has had a free-trade area agreement with Canada's neighbor to the south since 1985, and an associate-status agreement with the European Community since 1972. Jerusalem would like a similar kind of arrangement with Canada.

So far, though, Canada has not responded to a proposal along these lines made by Israel in April. The issue of free trade is problematic in Canada, notes Louise Leger, trade commissioner at the Canadian Embassy in Tel Aviv. "Canada is currently in recession and many blame it on the U.S.-Canada free-trade zone agreement," she explains.

Bilateral trade has been sluggish in recent years, with yearly growth of only about five percent. The 1990 total was a mere U.S. $234 million (see graph) — far lower than Israel's business with smaller countries like Switzerland and Holland; Israeli trade with the U.S. on a per-capita basis is more than double the level with Canada. One problem: mutual tariffs due to the lack of a trade agreement between the two countries. In the April talks, Canadian officials requested the elimination of the tariffs — to which Israel responded with its proposal for a free-trade area accord.

"Canada has not been a priority for most Israeli companies," concedes Zohar Peri, director of the Industry and Trade Ministry's Foreign Trade Administration. "They have traditionally concentrated their efforts in Western Europe, because of its proximity, or the U.S., because of its sheer size."

To date, diamonds and tomatoes have been Israel's main exports to Canada, while sulfur and aluminum have topped the list of products coming from the other direction. Together, the four products account for over 40 percent of the trade volume between the two.

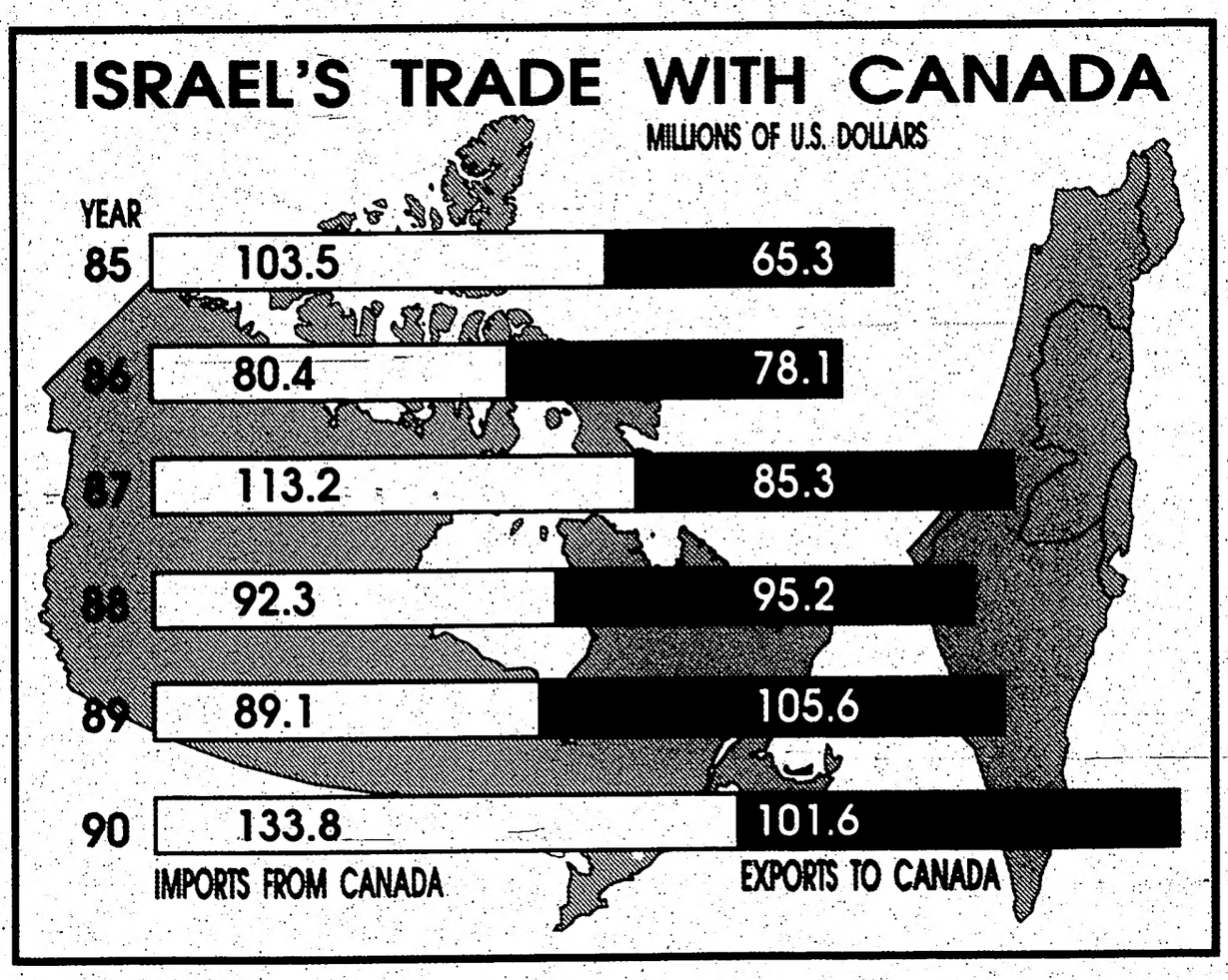
But the huge Soviet immigration has opened up new prospects. With Israel's population expected to grow by 18 percent over the next few years, 1991 may well represent a turning point. Still, the Canadian Embassy's Leger seems to be on thin ice when she says, "We can sell Israel items like skating rinks, since Russians are such avid skaters."

In fact, it's the demand for houses for the new arrivals that is attracting more serious Canadian interest. Explains Leger: "With Canada in recession, many of our large contractors see Israel as a market with a huge potential." About a dozen Canadian contracting firms are now negotiating with both government departments and local firms to become involved in building projects in Israel. Four of the companies have signed joint-venture agreements with local Israeli firms. To smooth the way for Canadian companies to nail down some of Israel's building action, Ottawa agreed to provide U.S. $500 million in suppliers' credit from the Export Development Corp., the Canadian equivalent of the U.S. Exim Bank, a government bank that grants export credit.

Canadian officials had initially expected firms in Canada to capture as much as $200-300 million in pre-fab sales. But the Housing Ministry finally decided against importing finished pre-fabs, opting instead to bring in the raw materials, such as wood, for assembly in Israel. On the one hand, this obviates the tariff problem, as there are no customs duties on raw-material imports to Israel; but, on the other hand, it is a setback to Canadian hopes: "Canadian companies will now be lucky to get $50 million in business out of this," complains Leger. Yet, even this would sharply boost Canadian sales to Israel.

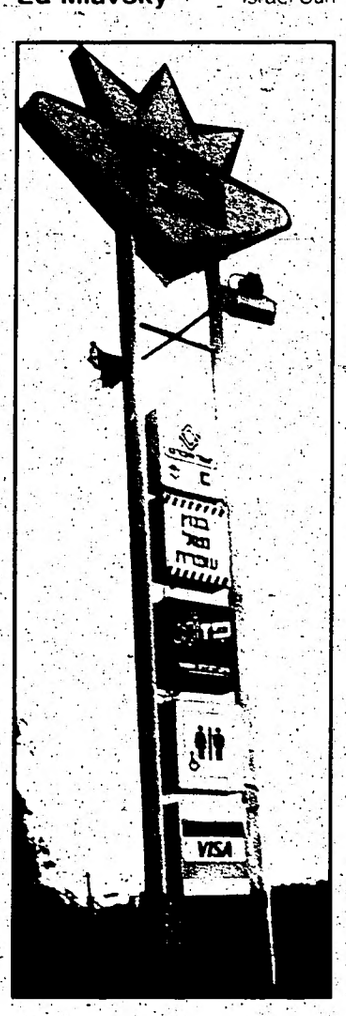
Canadian firms are also actively seeking Israeli interest in telecommunications equipment and environmental products, such as waste-disposal equipment. Negotiations are also under way for large-scale participation by Canadian firms in Israel's ambitious railroad development program. Israeli companies, for their part, are concentrating on efforts to sell high-tech products to Canada, primarily computer software and software systems. The Industry Ministry's Peri believes that Canada's ongoing desire to reduce its imports from the U.S. means that "Israeli high-tech firms have a good chance of succeeding."

Officials of both countries are confident that the coming years will see a sharp rise in trade. "We think trade will double to $500 million within three years," predicts Leger. This may be over-optimistic, but Canada looks well on the way to becoming one of Israel's major trading partners. ❑



Source: Central Bureau of Statistics

BIRD executive director Ed Mlavsky Israel Sun



Still a novelty: Unleaded gas signs Magnes

Elite's Hanukkah *gelt*: In the money

ECONOMIC BRIEFING

BIRD IN HAND

Twenty-eight Israeli and American firms are the latest to benefit from a total of $7 million in grants from the Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation (BIRD). "Two of the 14 approved projects, which pair American with Israeli firms, involve American companies that have never done business with Israel before," says Ed Mlavsky, executive director of BIRD, a joint American-Israeli enterprise. The American newcomers are Executone, which produces business telephone systems, and Cylink, a leading firm in the field of computer security coding.

BIRD was established jointly by the U.S. and Israel in 1977 to stimulate high-tech industrial cooperation. If the venture shows a profit, the original grant is repaid. BIRD projects employ joint research for the local production of high-tech products. The foundation has already invested over $80 million in a variety of joint projects, accounting for a total of $1 billion in Israeli exports. The more than 140 products sold so far include ECI Telecom's telephone-line doubler, which increases phone line capacity, and Scitex's Visionary, a color pre-press system, Raystar, a printer and 2D-3D, a packaging system.

CHEAPER AND CLEANER

The Finance and Transport Ministries' recent decision to lower car prices in Israel may provide an added environmental bonus. To offset the loss of revenue from the reduction of tax on cars, the government will be raising gasoline prices. However, the price of cleaner unleaded gasoline will be pegged 4 agorot (almost two U.S.cents) below that of regular gasoline and the new car models will be built to take it. Long available in the U.S. and Western Europe, unleaded gas is still a novelty in Israel. The major fuel companies began marketing it last fall for the new cars with catalytic convertors. But Israeli drivers can still only fill up with unleaded gas at 40 of Israel's more than 500 gas stations. Oil Refineries Ltd., which produces all of Israel's gasoline, has already stockpiled 300,000 liters (about 80,000 gallons) of unleaded gas. A Refineries spokesman admits demand has not increased as rapidly as predicted. But he says this is likely to change: Drivers of 1980 or newer models which can handle unleaded gas, can take advantage of the new discount.

In addition, all 1992 cars imported into Israel must be equipped with catalytic convertors and will only take unleaded fuel.

DEBT DOWN

Israel's foreign debt declined last year by $660 million, to stand at $15.6 billion at the end of 1990 (see graph). Bank of Israel officials say that no less important is the drop in the ratio of the debt to GNP. The percentage, which is closely watched by foreign banks making loans, fell from 38.4 percent in 1989 to 31.3 percent last year. Just to compare: In 1985, right before the emergency economic stabilization program, the ratio topped 60 percent. The good news comes as Israel is to begin raising funds abroad to pay for immigration.

THE NOT-SO-FRIENDLY SKIES

El Al reported a $14.1 million net profit for 1990, down 58 percent from 1989. Still, the national carrier is one of the very few international airlines that reported a profit at all in 1990. The company's revenue rose by 10 percent last year to $785 million, due to more passengers and cargo, but this was offset by a sharp rise in costs. El Al sees the rise in revenue as an accomplishment in itself, since Israel was right in the "danger zone" after the Gulf crisis began in August 1990, when tourism to Israel plummeted 54 percent and fuel prices climbed by 120 percent.

El Al President Raphael Harlev put it down to the company's "flexible and efficient airline, capable of adapting itself quickly to meet changing conditions."

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Elite, Israel's premier confectionary company, is selling more abroad — 6 percent of total sales. The Ramat Gan-based firm is concentrating its sales efforts on Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, the U.S. and Britain. Top seller is its Egozi candy bar. Exports last year were $12.9 million and this year are expected to reach $18.4 million. If company predictions hold, Elite will more than double its exports within two years. ❑

Neal Sandler and Einat Erez

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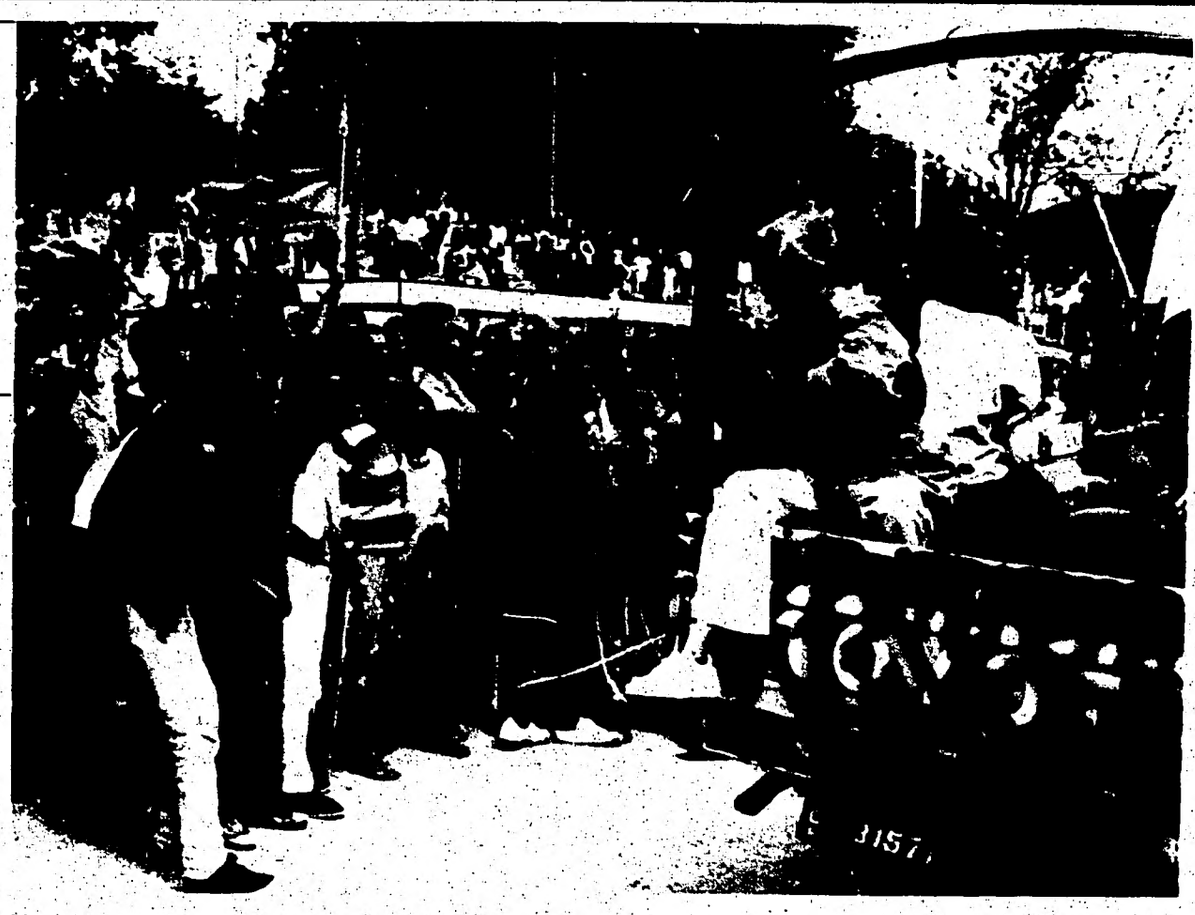
A REMNANT SWEATS IT OUT

Micha Odenheimer in Addis Ababa

Those left behind await an airlift of their own



Hundreds of youths surround an Eritrean jeep after the rebel takeover of Addis Ababa. The rebels fired their guns overhead to frighten the demonstrators AP

In guarded quarters somewhere in Addis Ababa, about 200 Ethiopian Jews who missed Operation Solomon are waiting out the tense and violent days of Ethiopia's transformation, hoping that they, too, will be soon be able to leave for Israel.

The Jews seem relaxed and confident they will eventually be able to rejoin their families in Israel. They have ample food and water, and the Israeli Embassy staff, including the ambassador, visit them daily.

Most of the Jews missed the massive airlift because they didn't learn about it in time. Although the Jews had been told to always leave word of where they could be found, some were not in their homes when the airlift began and could not be reached in time.

But some, particularly members of the small, relatively well-off group of Jews who have lived in Addis Ababa for years, knew the airlift had begun but had business they wanted to finish before they left. In several cases, one member of a family went out to try to sell the family's possessions and convert the money into gold jewelry that could be taken to Israel.

But these aren't the only "Jews" stranded in Addis.

On Thursday morning, nearly a week after the airlift, about 150 white shawled Ethiopians were gathered in the street across from the Israeli Embassy. Some held the yellow card issued by American Jewish organizations entitling them to financial assistance and medical care at the Joint Distibution Committee's clinic.

"We are Solomon's people," they said.

The Solomon they were referring to is not Operation Solomon, which left them behind, but Solomon Ezra, an American-educated Ethiopian Israeli in his early 30s who has been working for the North American Conference for Ethiopian Jews for eight years. It is Ezra who was in charge of channeling financial aid to the approximately 3,000 Ethiopian Jews who had converted to Christianity but came to Addis Ababa to reclaim their Jewish identity and immigrate to Israel.

Some of the converted Jews, known as Feres Mora, have already been evicted from their tiny rooms in Addis Ababa's shanty towns because their landlords believe they will no longer receive aid from the American Jewish organizations. Other Ethiopians have taunted the Feres Mora since the airlift, saying "You are Jews — why don't you go to Israel?"

Israeli Embassy sources say that part of their problem will be alleviated: The Joint Distribution Committee is reopening its clinic and food distribution program this week, and other Jewish organizations will soon follow suit.

The Israelis believe that the Jewish people have a responsiblity to resettle the Feres Mora somewhere in Ethiopia. But most of Israel's diplomatic staff here are adamantly opposed to a policy of wholesale immigration for the Feres Mora. "It is a big mistake to conceive of the Christian Jews as a single, unified community," one Israeli source said. "Some of them converted for love, some for money, and some because of duress. Some are not Jews at all, but are Christians posing as Jews." The total number of Feres Mora has been estimated at between 15,000 and 50,000.

Israeli Ambassador Asher Naim believes that there are authentic cases of Jews who were forcibly converted to Christianity, and that each claim should be examined on a case-by-case basis.

Israeli diplomatic sources say that almost every Ethiopian from the country's northern provinces believes he is descended from Jews. "Mengistu himself once said to me, 'You know, I am a Falasha,' " one Israeli diplomat said. ❑

EYEWITNESS: SIX DAYS THAT SHOOK ETHIOPIA

Tuesday (May 28): Dawn breaks to the sound of deafening explosions. Just as rebels belonging to the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) were preparing to attack the presidential palace, government soldiers squabbling among themselves ignited a huge munitions dump with stray fire. Balls of flame shoot upwards like great balloons.

In his apartment in the Hilton, 300 meters (330 yards) from the fighting, Israeli Ambassador Asher Naim has an open line to the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem.

Naim and his staff of three are preparing for the possibility that the rebel soldiers will concentrate all foreigners in one

Passersby tend to a wounded demonstrator who got shot by rebel fighters. The demonstrators were chanting "One Ethiopia" and anti-American slogans AP

central location. The ambassador jokes with his colleagues in Jerusalem: "I'd like to cordially invite all the bigshots that were here for the airlift to come to Addis Ababa now."

By 10 a.m. the shooting has subsided; we go outside and get our first look at the rebels. They are young and wild-looking, with long hair and colorful makeshift uniforms. Many are women. The soldiers are friendly and well disciplined.

We enter the palace grounds riding a rebel pick-up truck. Inside, another journalist is calling home on a push-button phone. I wait my turn. Suddenly we realize there are no rebel soldiers in sight. Automatic fire suddenly crackles close by. Apparently, some government soldiers are still on the palace grounds. We back away away from the fire and are relieved to encounter a squad of rebel soldiers.

Wednesday: I am surrounded by furious demonstrators shouting anti-American slogans. "Why did Herman Cohen tell the EPRDF to enter Addis Ababa?" they demand. "America is destroying Ethiopian unity."

Cohen, a U.S. State Department official, has played a key behind-the-scenes role in recent events in Ethiopia. The protesters fear the EPRDF takeover will lead to a declaration of independence by the organization's allies, the Eritrean People's Liberation Force, which controls the northeastern province of Eritrea. Suddenly, EPRDF soldiers begin firing their automatic weapons. We dive onto the dusty floor of a nearby plaza.

I make my way to EPRDF headquarters and speak to one of the military commanders.

What about the departure of the remaining Ethiopian Jews? "When the Jews leave is a decision for the transitional government," he says, meaning the coalition government that is to be formed within a month to take over from the EPRDF.

"Are you angry at Israel?" I ask. "We are angry at all forces that helped the Mengistu government. But that does not mean we don't want relations with Israel."

At 3 p.m. I am with a group of rebel troops as a few hundred demonstrators charge by. From nearly point-blank range, the soldiers open fire just over the heads of the demonstrators, who take cover behind a nearby wall. One middle-aged man is caught in front of the wall. He puts his hand up but the soldiers keep shooting until he is hit beneath the right shoulder and crumples to the ground.

Thursday: I talk myself into the room in the Defense Ministry where ministers from the previous government, along with former army generals and air force commanders, are being held after responding to a call from the EPRFD to turn themselves in. Tessaha Desta, Mengistu's vice president from 1978 until the last government reshuffle, five weeks ago, is in an angry, anxious mood. "So you are an American Jew, like Herman Cohen?" he says venomously. "Why don't you take me to Israel, you know I am a Falasha too, just like Kasa Kebede." Kebede, a top Mengistu adviser, closed the deal with Israel that allowed Operation Solomon to take place; in the airlift's last flight, he was flown to Israel as a stopover to exile elsewhere.

I ask Desta if I can photograph him. A pause, and then, "No, never trust the Jews, that's what the Bible says."

Friday: The city is quieter, after about 20 demonstrators were killed over the last three days.

But the issue of Ethiopian unity will not go away. It has become clear that the great majority of Addis Ababa's population opposes the secession of Eritrea, which would leave Ethiopia landlocked and cause it, they believe, to sink into even deeper impoverishment.

Saturday: Mellis Zanawe, the EPRFD's leader, just in from London, holds a press conference. He makes all the right noises about democracy, free press, free market. But on the Eritrean question he is in a bind. "The Eritereans have agreed not to make any unilateral moves until there is a democratic referendum in Eritrea."

After the press conference, Israeli Ambassador Naim introduces himself to Scyoun Mesfin, who has been presented as the interim government's foreign minister. The two exchange phone numbers.

Sunday: Reports circulating in the city say that the EPRP (Ethiopian Peoples Revolutionary Party), a prounity party made up mainly of members of the Amhara tribe that was the principal victim of Mengistu's huge Red Terror crackdown in 1978, has been gaining ground both in Addis Ababa and in the provinces of Gondar and Gojam. There are reports that five students were killed at the University of Addis Ababa Friday night in cross-fire between EPRDF soldiers and armed supporters of either the old government or the EPRP.

In Ethiopia's violent politics, the rebel takeover is a beginning, not an end. ❑

Micha Odenheimer

THE DONORS BITE BACK

J.J. Goldberg / New York

Giving squeeze leads UJA to beat a quiet retreat

Widespread alienation and indifference to Israel's problems among American Jews is leading many fundraisers and community planners to worry aloud that meeting Israel's needs could cost more than American Jewry can afford.

The United Jewish Appeal, overwhelmed by the spiraling costs of financing immigration to Israel, has quietly dropped plans to follow the just-completed Operation Exodus with a new $450 million emergency campaign that weary fundraisers were calling "Son of Exodus."

"The national policy is, there's no Son of Exodus, no Exodus Two," said UJA national chairman Marvin Lender. "There's just the continuing challenge of Operation Exodus, because there's no break in the Soviet immigration."

On the surface, the change is purely procedural: Fundraisers will essentially go back to their donors to ask for another $450-million "emergency pledge" on top of last year's "emergency pledge," without the fanfare and festivities that usually kick off a new campaign. At the same time, they will also have to ask for an additional $150 million to cover the Ethiopian airlift.

Behind the scenes, though, the hasty shift in plan — some say it amounts to no plan at all — reflects a sense of confusion and panic spreading in the Jewish community. From local fundraisers and community planners to top national leaders, activists say they are worried and frightened by the magnitude of the demands being placed on the American Jewish philanthropic dollar. Israel cannot walk away from its challenges, they say; what scares them is that American Jews can.

Community planners say the demands on the Jewish dollar have reached breaking point, forcing a cruel choice between Israel's future and American Jewry's. Fundraisers say donors are beginning to bite back, answering their urgent appeals with everything from poverty pleas and caustic reminders of last year's "historic, one-time" Exodus appeal to bitter complaints about Israel's failures in jobs and housing.

Among top community leaders, there are whispers of a leadership crisis. Outgoing UJA staff chief Stanley Horowitz will depart soon with no named successor, leaving Lender and his fellow volunteers to cope as best they can. Lender, a prominent Connecticut businessman, is given high marks for his energy and charisma, but he is a volunteer in a two-year elected position structurally dependent on staff backup.

Will they keep it up? UJA chairman Marvin Lender (right) and 425 UJA mission participants at the Western Wall last October, pledging help for Soviet immigration Cumins

"In fundraising, it's always a vacuum — if you don't go out for it, somebody else is going to get it," says Irving Bernstein, Horowitz's predecessor as UJA staff chief. "You have to go hell-for-leather and full steam ahead. With these 14,000 Ethiopians, the moment for tears and joy and dancing is over. Either you do it all the way or you don't."

The original Operation Exodus kicked off in early 1990, aiming at $420 million, over and above the UJA-Federation "regular campaign" of about $750 million a year. The Exodus figure was based on 1989 predictions of 200,000 Soviet immigrants by 1993. To raise the emergency sum, federations asked donors to make a one-time emergency pledge, equal to their annual "regular" UJA gift but payable over three years. The appeal was couched in impassioned calls to history, duty and a sense of the miraculous.

The goal of Exodus was obsolete almost before it was adopted, as Soviet aliyah projections skyrocketed to the current one million. Accordingly, Operation Exodus II was proposed last fall with a 1991 launch and a goal of $1.2 billion. That was later amended to $450 million cash, plus $900 million in federation-backed guarantees for Israeli absorption loans. Another $200 million cash was to be raised as a reserve against defaults. The $150 million for the Ethiopian exodus comes on top of that.

But local fundraisers recently began sensing that a full-scale Operation Exodus II, coming so close on the heels of Exodus I, would expose the campaign's melodrama and pyrotechnics and impair credibility. "If I come to you and say, 'This is a crisis, we have an emergency and we need you to reach deep,' then O.K., you do it," says Irwin Hochberg, overseas chairman of New York UJA-Federation. "But if I come to you a second time and say it again, you're going to think I'm crazy."

Fundraisers' woes are heightened by the growing gap between a committed minority of American Jews — one recent study showed about 25 percent actively involved in some form of Jewish observance — and the vast majority that simply attend synagogue a few times a year and circumcise their sons, doggedly refusing either to disappear or to show up.

"The vast majority of American Jews are so out of touch with Israel and disconnected from its reality that this aliyah just isn't affecting them too much," says sociologist Steven M. Cohen, the study's author. "For the 10 or 15 percent that are very tuned into Israel already, it's an enormous source of pride, but for the vast majority it's a passing event."

The widespread alienation leads many fundraisers and community planners to worry aloud that meeting Israel's needs could cost American Jewry more than it can afford.

"The resettlement of Russians and Ethiopians in Israel is cutting into local needs here, no question," says Barry Schrage, Boston federation director. "That's appropriate, and we can't do

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anything else, but I am worried to death about the rise in intermarriage and the decline in Jewish literacy."

Schrage adds: "Some say, 'Let them come to Israel and there won't be assimilation.' But realistically speaking, we're not going to get a mass aliyah from America. And if we don't do something to shore up the local community, it's going to start declining, and that is going to hurt Israel down the road."

National UJA spokesmen insist Exodus doesn't hurt local communities, because donors are cautioned not to replace one gift with another.

But local fundraisers say otherwise: "Once you've asked somebody for a second gift on top of his first, you can't go back to him for an inflation increase," says one federation official. "He's already giving you 133 percent. So for the three years he's paying out his Exodus pledge, our campaign is frozen, our staff salaries are frozen, and with things like rent and supplies going up, it's a squeeze."

This year federations face an even greater squeeze from the deepening national recession. Says Boston's Schrage: "We've already faced two years in a row of decline in our local campaign — from $25 million two years ago to $20.2 million this year. We've cut back all our local agencies by about 9 percent a year, and we've used up all our reserves. I'm not saying we should do anything different, but the one thing we cannot do is say we'll worry about the local needs when the international crisis is over."

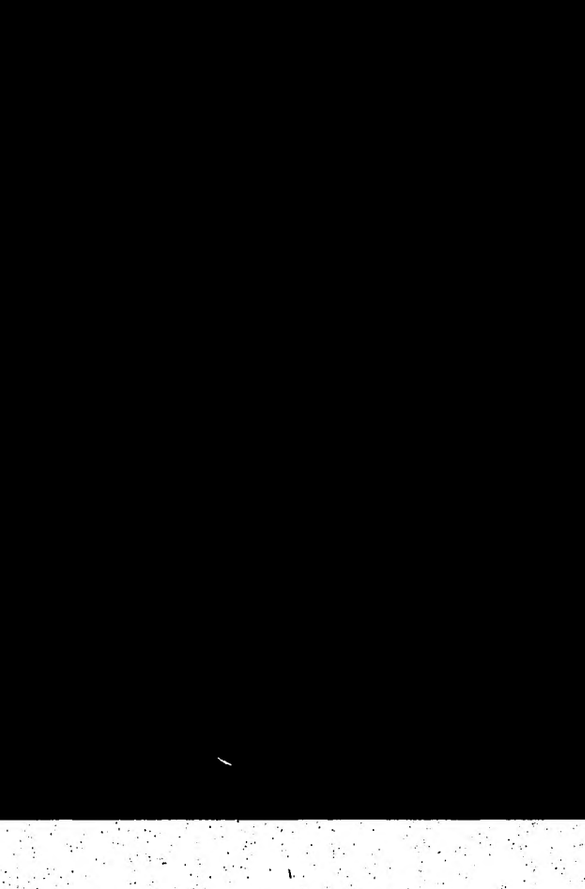
In New York, where UJA-Federation has managed so far to avoid recessionary drops in giving, community agencies face a crisis from another source: multi-billion-dollar deficits in the state and city budgets are resulting in multi-million dollar cuts in government aid to federation programs. Federation officials estimate a minimum of $60 million in cuts next year. ❑

TO GO OR NOT TO GO?

Alexander Lesser / Moscow

Soviet Jews are finding it harder to decide

The scene: late on a Wednesday afternoon in May at Moscow's Kievski train station. The 6:25 for Budapest is scheduled to depart in less than an hour. Up and down the platform, in groups of a dozen or more, Jewish families are spending their last moments on Soviet soil. Friends and relatives are about to part, perhaps for only a short time — if those staying behind intend to follow — perhaps forever. Old women embrace, small children are pulled up to waiting arms. The men pass around bottles of vodka or champagne; there are toasts, cries of *lehayim!* Flowers, presented to the departing, are waved with nervous gestures; sleeves and handkerchiefs are pressed into use against the tears.



A goodbye at the Kievski station Lesser

"We see this kind of thing every day," observes a Soviet train conductor, a bony woman with a stretched face, trying hard to look indifferent. In fact she sees it twice a day; there is another train around nine o'clock.

"Where are you going?" The question is asked of several families. The reply, with broad smiles, from every one: "To Israel!"

"But where in Israel?" "To Ashdod. I have a cousin . . ." "To Jerusalem. My sister . . ." And so on, like in a geography lesson, the cities of Israel are recited.

Mingling on the platform with the departing Jews is the ordinary traffic of Soviet railways: soldiers on leave, old women with scarves around their heads, toting bundles of food.

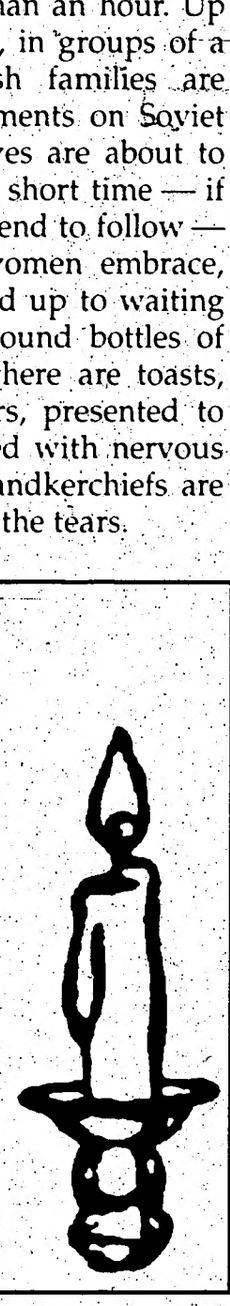
They seem to look straight through the Jews, as if they were invisible or had already gone. They pay no more attention to families locked in tearful embraces than they would to a pair of businessmen shaking hands.

The leavers have resolved the question that has exercised probably every Jew in the Soviet Union — indeed, it has already become a cliche: *Yekhat ili nye yekhat*, to go or not to go.

It is virtually impossible for a non-Soviet to understand what that question means to a person who has lived all his

Shabbat around the world

	June 7		June 14	
	Begins	Ends	Begins	Ends
Jerusalem	7:04	8:25	7:07	8:28
Addis Ababa	6:20	7:17	6:25	7:19
Budapest	8:20	9:39	8:24	9:44
Buenos Aires	5:31	6:30	5:31	6:30
Cairo	6:34	7:36	6:36	7:38
Johannesburg	5:04	5:59	5:04	6:00
London	8:55	10:26	9:00	10:32
Los Angeles	7:45	8:46	7:48	8:49
Melbourne	4:50	5:51	4:49	5:50
Montreal	8:23	9:38	8:27	9:43
Moscow	9:50	11:44	9:56	11:54
New York	8:07	9:15	8:10	9:19
Paris	9:33	10:55	9:37	11:01
Sao Paulo	5:08	6:03	5:09	6:03



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life in the shadow of the power, isolation and tragedy of the Soviet Union.

It means first and foremost a sharp break from all that is familiar: the Russian language and culture, the (still omnipresent) oppressive figure of Lenin, the closeness of family life around the kitchen table, tea and vodka and black bread, the seasonal rhythms and the habits of silence and submissiveness.

Of course, the USSR is opening up. On May 20 the Supreme Soviet finally passed a long-awaited law permitting Soviet citizens to travel abroad, like citizens of any normal country. But the new law is just a piece of paper awaiting implementation (it takes effect in January 1993). Emigration, until recently — the twinkling of an eye, in Soviet history — was an act akin to treason. Old attitudes toward emigration die hard.

In April, 16,000 Soviet Jews left the USSR for Israel. The May figure was marginally higher, but aliyah was still no more than half the pre-Gulf War levels. Many interviewed on the train platform said their exit visas would expire within a day or two: It was now or never.

One reason why people wait until the last minute is because they are unsure of their destination. If America were to open its arms in welcome, that's where the vast majority of Soviet Jews would go. Others would go to Germany, history notwithstanding. But the procedure for obtaining permanent residence in Germany takes more than a year. The quicker route into Germany, by a tourist visa, is no solution now that the Germans have announced a willingness to deport Jews overstaying on tourist visas. For most, the only way out is to Israel.

Most Soviet Jews seem profoundly uncomfortable with the idea of living in Israel, however enthusiastic they may become at the moment of departure. They worry about being settled in the heat of the Negev desert or in the occupied territories. They also worry about being housed in tents and mobile homes.

Most of all, Soviet Jews worry about Israeli socialism and Jewish fundamentalism: they hate the color red, of which they've had too much, and they don't understand the color black (the uniform of the ultra-Orthodox) about which they know nothing. At bottom, they're afraid they're exchanging one abnormal country for another.

So why are they going? The deep explanation was perhaps encapsulated by an immigrant, now three years in Israel, who recently returned to Moscow as a Jewish Agency emissary to help prepare emigrants for life in their new home. Addressing a group of Soviet Jews, he said:

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"Here, it's difficult and there's no hope of improvement. There, in Israel, it will also be difficult, but in Israel there's hope."

Recent reports emanating from Israel have suggested that the pre-Gulf War flood was the crest of a wave which will now recede. The head of the Soviet Union's visa office, OVIR, finds a "clear drop" in the number of Israel-bound visa applicants. "We expect emigration to Israel to stabilize at the median between the pre-Gulf crisis level and the present level," Rudolf Kuznetsov told The Jerusalem Report. (OVIR hasn't yet compiled statistics for the first half of 1991; those figures won't be available until sometime in July.)

The Gulf War was the major disruptive factor in the current Soviet aliyah. "For some Jews it was a concrete sign that Israel is a dangerous place, something they perhaps didn't know or think about before," said Mikhail Chlenov, a leader of Vaad, the largest Soviet Jewish umbrella organization.

But now another factor has emerged: absorption problems. Word is going back to the Soviet Union that jobs and housing are hard to come by in Israel. For those who don't have friends or relatives already in Israel to tell them what to expect, the Soviet press has not been shy about highlighting the hardships.

Some here believe that one clause in the Soviet Union's new emigration law will actually cause Soviet Jews to postpone their departure until it takes effect in 18 months' time: It permits emigrants to retain Soviet citizenship. "It's a life-preserver," said Kuznetsov, the Soviet visa official. "It gives them an escape route back to the Soviet Union. I think a lot of the Jews who would otherwise have left earlier waited for the passage of this law." One Soviet Jewish leader frankly admitted that, psychologically, many emigrants dropped into the rough seas of Israeli life would feel strengthened by having a potential liferaft back to a familiar world.

But 18 months is an eternity in Soviet terms. And law or no law, Soviet Jews are acutely aware that the emigration situation could change overnight. Anxieties grew here when Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh hinted during his recent Middle East tour that Soviet Jewish emigration might be limited if the government's West Bank settlement policy continues. Said one well-off Moscow Jew who's been planning a leisurely emigration: "Maybe we'd better leave now while the *fortochka* (the small ventilation window unique to Russian homes) is still open." ❑

Pondering the question

Boris and Anna Megreleshvilli are Soviet yuppies. They are young (both 33), well-educated and prosperous. Like many of their generation, they have a mixed marriage: Boris is Jewish and Anna is Russian, facts that mean no more to them than the color of their hair. They represent the new thinking in the Soviet Union: open, energetic, free-market oriented and secular. As half of Boris's relatives have already gone to Israel, the idea of emigration is by no means strange to them. But until recently they didn't seriously consider leaving the USSR; now they are.

Boris, a lawyer, founded his own firm as soon as perestroika-era legal reforms permitted this. Now, three years later, six lawyers work in the firm. Anna has degrees in geography and economic planning but gave up work to care for their seven-year-old daughter, Yunya, after they moved to Moscow from the southern city of Krasnodar where they met. That Boris's firm is thriving is apparent from the new furniture and appliances in their three-room flat in the north of Moscow, including a refrigerator well-stocked with fresh fruit and vegetables whose price puts them beyond the reach of many Soviets. On the surface, there seems to be no reason why they would consider starting from scratch in a new country.

Last Autumn, Boris scoffed at the idea of leaving. All the practical factors militated against the move: a familiar culture, a circle of friends, an understanding of the local ways, an established business and, of course, language.

It was Anna who first broached the idea, last December. "I had a premonition," she says, laughing. "A woman is like a cat, she feels things before she knows why." In late December came foreign minister Eduard Shevardnadze's resignation and his ominous predictions of dictatorship. After the new year came the Soviet repression of the independence movements in the Baltic republics. But in the spring the danger that hardline Communists might succeed in reversing all the reforms of perestroika and glasnost seemed to recede.

All the while Boris sensed each tremor of uncertainty: He had local clients leaving for Israel and eager to sell their apartments, and foreign clients who decided to hold back on Soviet ventures. Psychologically, Boris and Anna began

Boris Megreleshvilli and his daughter Yunya at their Moscow apartment Lesser

to adjust themselves to the idea of leaving.

"What we're really afraid of is a reaction," says Boris, referring to a possible armed repression, Tiananmen Square-style. "If that happens, we'll be the first victims. Why? Because I'm an independent lawyer, because I resigned from the Communist Party, because I'm for democracy and, of course" — laughing — "because I'm a Jew, a 'cosmopolitan,'" evoking the pejorative codeword for Jews used in Stalin's time.

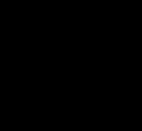
"When I say I'm afraid," he explains, "I don't mean I'm afraid that someone is going to kill me or beat me. I mean that I'm afraid that if things go back to what they were before perestroika, there will be no market for business lawyers because there will be no business. The economic liberalization will be crushed."

If push comes to shove, where would they go: Israel or America? "The simplest way out is Israel of course," says Boris. "Both my parents come from large families in Georgia and half my aunts and uncles on both sides are in Israel already. I've got relatives in practically every city there. On the other hand, I've been to America but never to Israel. And by nature I prefer big cities, which means America. Israel, excuse me, is half the size of Moscow, by population." He allows that his view might change after a visit to Israel. "I've got an invitation, but I've never found the time to go."

How does Anna, as a non-Jew, feel about it? "I don't know much about Israel beyond what's written in the Soviet papers. It seems exotic to me, like the 'Muslim Orient,'" she says. "But if life forces us to go there, I'll go. I was the one who said we might have to leave here, not Boris." ❑

A.L.

GETTING THERE TOGETHER



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Left: Ambassador Amru in front of the Intifada painting that hangs in his office. Right: The Embassy of Palestine in central Moscow Lesser

'ON SOVEREIGN PALESTINIAN TERRITORY'

Alexander Lesser / Moscow

An interview with Nabil Amru, the PLO's man in Moscow

Tucked away on a quiet sidestreet in central Moscow is a sumptuous palace that once belonged to Prince Kropotkin, the legendary 19th-century Russian anarchist. Today the sign at the gate reads: "Embassy of the State of Palestine."

Inside, the palace is decorated with busts and portraits of PLO chief Yasir Arafat, his late deputy Abu Jihad and nameless Kalashnikov-wielding fedayeen. Some 3,000 Palestinians, mostly students, live in Moscow; they gather here, and at a nearby cultural center, for a sense of community.

Presiding over the PLO's mission in the Soviet capital is Nabil Amru, 44, officially accredited as an ambassador; Israel's top representative in Moscow, by contrast, ranks only as a consul.

Amru was born in Hebron, where his parents still live. His wife and five children live in Amman. A member of the Council of Palestinian Journalists and Writers, Amru spent 10 years as head of Voice of Palestine radio (which broadcasts from Algeria) before taking the Moscow-post three years ago. He is the author of a book on Israel's siege of Beirut, "Days of Love," and is writing another on his tenure in Moscow.

Amru received The Jerusalem Report's correspondent in his spacious office. Behind his desk hangs an Arafat portrait; on another wall is a large painting by a Soviet artist depicting the Intifada in heavy socialist realist style. Beneath it sits a gilded copy of the Koran.

Tanned and fit and wearing a stylish Western suit, Amru speaks to the interviewer through a Russian interpreter. He says he enjoys living in Moscow at a time of historical change. But surely not all the changes can be to his liking. Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh's recent visit to Israel, the first of its kind, was a sign of warming relations between Israel and the Soviet Union. And some Soviets have begun to question whether it is still true after the Cold War that "all Arabs are Soviet friends," as one local newspaper put it.

TJR: In the near future Israel and the Soviet Union are likely to restore full diplomatic ties after a break of more than 20 years. Does the PLO view that development as helpful to the peace process?

Amru: We know the Soviet Union is planning to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, but the Soviets have told us that doing so depends upon Israel taking steps toward a peaceful solution of the Palestinian problem. The Soviets also told us that if they had relations with Israel, they would be able to influence Israel to make peace. But we're afraid that no solution will be achieved under Israel's present government. Still, we hope that together the United States and the Soviet Union will be able to influence Israel, because the two superpowers see eye to eye in opposing Israel's settlement policy.

TJR: In April, 16,000 Soviet Jews left the Soviet Union for Israel. What has the PLO said to the Soviets about Jewish emigration to Israel?

Amru: We've never opposed the right of anyone to emigrate anywhere. But we're against forcing people who wish to leave the Soviet Union to go only to Israel. It's inhuman. Every time we've communicated our position to the Soviets, we've stressed our concern over settling Soviet Jews in the occupied territories.

TJR: Statistics suggest that very few Soviet Jews — about 1 percent — are settling beyond Israel's 1967 borders.

Amru: Yes, but those statistics don't include East Jerusalem. For us, that's also occupied territory.

TJR: Has the PLO attempted to convey its position to the Jewish community here in Moscow?

Amru: We met some Soviet Jews at a seminar sponsored by the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and explained our stand on the settlements. I might add that as far as the position of the Jews here is concerned, we don't see any infringement of their rights. On the contrary, they have a lot of advantages here. The idea that Jews in Russia are persecuted is

mere propaganda.

TJR: How would you describe relations between the PLO and the Soviet Union since perestroika began?
Amru: Relations now are absolutely normal. I don't deny there was some tension between us and the Soviets when the large Jewish emigration began. And nowadays, a lot of Soviet newspapers criticize us, but we don't see that as Soviet policy — the papers criticize Gorbachev, too. You know, the Soviet Union accepts Palestine as a state — at this moment, you're on the territory of a sovereign Palestinian state.

TJR: And the Gulf War?
Amru: Our relations with Moscow were seriously tested during the war. We believe that the Soviets made sincere, serious efforts to settle the conflict without bloodshed. Our own position toward the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait was firm: Iraqi troops should have been withdrawn and the conflict should have been settled peacefully.

TJR: You were present at the recent meeting in Geneva between Arafat and Bessmertnykh. Can you describe the results?
Amru: I can say relations between Palestine and the Soviet Union have grown warmer. I would also say it was unwise of Yitzhak Shamir to demand that the Soviet Union break diplomatic ties with the State of Palestine. How can Israel think it can force the Soviet Union to take such a step?

TJR: What message would you like to convey to readers of The Jerusalem Report?
Amru: I would say the following: If peaceful methods don't succeed, the Middle-East will become a powder keg. Of course, Israel can use all its power to control the situation in the occupied territories, but it can't assign a soldier to every Palestinian. ❑

THE ELECTION BAROMETER

Isabel Kershner

Two upcoming polls will shed light on trends in the territories

No one can remember when elections for the Chamber of Commerce and Industry last took place in the West Bank town of Hebron. The board's chairman has been in office 39 years. Half the members have died; the rest are old and decrepit.

On June 18, a new board will be elected. Almost 1,600 Hebron businessmen are registered to vote. Observers inside and outside the territories say the vote is a crucial barometer of trends in Palestinian politics.

Although officially non-partisan, the election is clearly political: A PLO-Fatah affiliated list of candidates is running against an Islamic bloc and a few independents. Palestinian nationalism is ever-present but not flaunted; the lists run under the cover of unfamiliar names but their identities are well-known.

Still, Israeli authorities have decided to let the election go ahead. They consider the candidates to be moderates — most are middle-aged businessmen — who the military government hopes will be partners for talks about Palestinian economic development. The Civil Administration in the territories is said to be watching the results as avidly as the PLO and Islamic leaders.

As a reflection of Palestinian public opinion, says one Hebron-based independent political analyst, the election ranks right after a general election or municipal balloting. Though the chamber doesn't have political functions, its status as the only elected body in the area will allow it to claim a more legitimate representative role than any appointed or imposed body.

PLO leaders in Tunisia were reportedly not overjoyed by the chamber's plan to hold an election which could potentially challenge their central authority. But now that it is on, sources note, PLO chief Yasir Arafat is eager to see pro-Fatah candidates win. Leaving nothing to chance in the conservative town of Hebron, the list has taken the name of Khalil al-Rahman, meaning the Friend of God, and is fielding several devout Muslims as candidates to appeal to religious voters.

Another indicator of Palestinian voting power will be the June 11 elections for Bethlehem University's student senate — the first since the Israeli authorities closed down the campus following a violent incident in October 1987 and allowed it to reopen last September.

All the main PLO factions are fielding candidates, but under student group names. "Legally, we're covered," says Dr. Manuel Hassassian, Bethlehem University's dean of students and head of the committee overseeing the elections.

Observers are particularly keen to guage fundamentalist strength in this traditional bastion of the leftist Palestinian factions. For the first time, Fatah has joined forces with the leftist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Democratic Front and Communists in a coalition against a Muslim fundamentalist bloc incorporating the Hamas and Islamic Jihad organizations.

There are 19 positions in the senate — four administrative, and 15 representing the university's social, culture, heritage, art and sports clubs. Muslim fundamentalists are expected to gain a maximum of 250 out of the 1,400 votes — still a relatively high number for a campus that is 40 percent Christian — and control over one club. In past elections, they have concentrated on the manageable target of the sports club. This is the least prestigious club, with the weakest potential for political expression. The most Hamas can do with it, Hassassian explains, is dress the club's football team in knee-length shorts as a sign of religious modesty.

Some dismiss the idea that student elections serve as a true reflection of Palestinian opinion. "If the Popular Front was to win in Bethlehem, Abu Ammar (Arafat) wouldn't worry too much about it," says a knowledgeable Palestinian source, "But if it was to win in Hebron, I think he'd be very concerned." ❑

SEQUEL TO A SCANDAL

Jeffery Phillips / Cairo

The crooked path of an Islamic investment king

Egypt's most convoluted financial scandal — the 1989 collapse of the Al-Rayan Islamic investment house, which left 185,000 depositors empty-handed — has taken a fresh turn, just when an end to the saga seemed in sight.

The twist came as a central figure in the case, Al-Rayan co-founder Tawfiq Abd al-Fattah, was on the verge of striking a deal with the state. Under the accord, the company assets would have been sold to as-yet unidentified buyers, the losers reimbursed, and Abd al-Fattah released from jail by the end of this month, even though he's already been sentenced on some charges.

Instead, Abd al-Fattah has apparently pulled out. He is now demanding that a new judge be appointed to conduct his on-going trial, condemning himself to several more months, if not years, behind bars.

The Al-Rayan story began five years ago, when Abd al-Fattah and his three sons established the Islamic investment house. They took deposits from thousands of small investors and put the money into projects and speculative investments ranging from agriculture to gold and silver.

Interest payments are forbidden in Islam, so Al-Rayan gave its depositors monthly dividends that amounted to an annual return of 24 percent — far above the average return on investment in Egypt, and a full 7 percentage points above the bank deposit rate.

The company attracted over $670 million in deposits in the space of three years. Al-Rayan became the largest of over 100 Islamic investment houses, ranging from large multi-national companies to one-man storefront operations. Some depositors were apparently attracted by the chance to invest without breaking Islamic principles. The majority, it seems, wanted to make a faster buck than was available from the commercial banks.

In 1989, the Egyptian government ordered the companies to stop trading and to present audited accounts to the state's investment authority. It emerged that for the most part the investment houses had incomplete deposit records, and that their asset bases were invariably less than the declared value of deposits.

Tawfiq Abd al-Fattah (right) and sons at a Cairo court hearing in May. Above hangs a saying of the prophet Muhammad: "Whoever takes the people's money with the intention of giving it back, God will give it back" AP

The scandal raged for months in the columns of the government and opposition press. Each new revelation was topped by a fresh one: Al-Rayan had lost $100 million in currency and gold speculation; one of the Abd al-Fattah sons wore a pistol under his robe; the wife of another had run off with 30 million Egyptian pounds (some $10 million) that had been deposited in her name, in one hand — and a police officer sent to investigate her, in the other.

The opposition claimed the existence of a list of politically influential depositors who earned premium returns of up to 50 percent a year. Pro-government columnists suggested that the investment houses had helped to finance the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood's 1987 election campaign. Neither claim was ever laid to rest; probably neither was true.

The government, meanwhile, had detained Abd al-Fatah and his three sons in late 1989. One son has since died. The rest are languishing in prison on charges of failing to repay depositors, drawing money from frozen bank accounts and signing thousands of checks with no assets to back them.

In a three-way deal that raised plea-bargaining to high art, Tawfiq Abd al-Fattah agreed late last year to sell Al-Rayan's assets in order to pay back the depositors. The family's erstwhile lawyer, Rashad Nabih, told the court that he had put together a consortium of "patriotic Egyptians who wanted to show their faith in Egypt" by buying Al-Rayan.

The court agreed, the price was fixed and the judge ruled that all charges against the family would be dropped. Nabih promised to transfer the money from abroad to Egypt by April 1.

Until the transfer of funds is complete, the Al-Rayan trials will go on. The Abd al-Fattahs have so far received sentences of three years for each fraudulently signed check, in theory amounting to thousands of years of jail time, though actual terms served in cases such as this don't exceed seven years in Egypt. Nabih, meanwhile, failed to deposit the money by the agreed date, and is asking for an extension until June 30.

Speculation about the mystery buyer's identity is mounting in Cairo. Guesses range from the Egyptian government wanting to pay back the depositors and end the scandal once and for all, to the Muslim Brotherhood wanting to restore confidence in Islamic financing.

Tawfiq Abd al-Fattah, meanwhile, threw in his own surprise in the last week of May, with a request to change the judge and start the whole process

again. If the High Court agrees, the new trial may not start until the autumn. Then it could run for months.

Abd al-Fattah claims that the judge acted wrongly in continuing his trial in the absence, due to sickness, of his new defense lawyer (Nabih is now acting as a business representative in the case). He also objects to the fact that the same judge is trying him in a separate case.

Observers in Cairo see Abd al-Fattah's apparent rejection of a quick release differently. The imprisoned investment king has also challenged Nabih to either transfer the money by June 10, or show documents proving it exists. Many believe that despite his protestations to the contrary, Abd al-Fattah has considerable assets abroad. These may mature, they say, in the month or so it takes the High Court to rule on the demand for a new judge, allowing Abd al-Fattah to repay the depositors himself and retain control of Al-Rayan's assets.

If Abd al-Fattah does manage to liquidate sufficient investments to repay the depositors, the Al-Rayan affair will move in yet another direction. Questions will certainly be raised concerning how he was able to repatriate the money, when the Egyptian government understood it had gained full power of attorney over Al-Rayan's assets and over the private assets of its directors two years ago. Clearly, this is one scandal it won't be easy to close the books on. ❑

Former president Amin Gemayel: His seat in parliament will finally be filled AP

THE HOUSE OF SURVIVORS

Joseph Matar / Beirut

A future by appointment for the Lebanese parliament

Lebanon's fossilized parliament is about to get some new faces for the first time in 19 years. The government is poised to appoint 41 new legislators, some replacing members who have died, others filling nine seats created to give Muslims the same representation as Christians.

The parliament will have 108 seats, 54 each for Christians and Muslims, in line with the Taif accord for a reunified Lebanon, signed by Lebanese politicians in 1989 in Saudi Arabia.

Lebanon's Chamber of Deputies is unique among the world's parliaments. The constitution says elections should be held every four years. But the present body was elected in 1972; since the outbreak of the Lebanese civil war in 1975, it has simply voted to renew its own mandate every two years.

Five presidents have been elected by the current parliament: Elias Sarkis, Bashir Gemayel (assassinated in 1982), Amin Gemayel, Rene Mouawad (assassinated in 1990), and the current head of state, Elias Hrawi. So far, 30 deputies have died and the seats of Amin Gemayel and Elias Hrawi have remained vacant since they were elected to the presidency.

While there are some relative youngsters among the members who are still among the living, many legislators need a helping hand to stand on their feet. The average age is 65.

While some Lebanese see the parliament as the last remaining symbol of the Beirut government's political legitimacy, others dismiss it as nothing more than a self-perpetuating protector of sectarian interests.

The legislators, for their part, insist they are the guardians of legitimate government. Jubran Tawk, a Christian Maronite who represents the north Lebanese region of Bcharre, recently told reporters that "the parliament has done its duty throughout its entire term of office."

"As you know, we've passed through some very delicate situations," he said. "Every time presidential elections were at hand, every time the country needed us, we braved all kinds of dangers to come and vote."

But critics say the parliament is no longer representative of the people or of political conditions in Lebanon. "Can you imagine, I'm 40, and I've never had the chance to vote?" says one local journalist. Voting age in Lebanon is 21.

Members of the parliament argue that if they are in office illegitimately, the last five Lebanese presidents were illegitimate too. "It's a common and legal practice," said one legislator, "that faced with the impossibility of holding elections, the parliament can renew its mandate."

The present parliament's 19-year record shows the zigzags in Lebanese policy. In the early 70s, it ratified the Cairo Agreement. The pact gave the PLO control over what was known as "Fatah Land" in South Lebanon, which became a base for terrorist attacks against Israel. The same parliament abrogated the agreement in 1990.

In 1983, the Chamber of Deputies voted for the Israeli-Lebanese May 17 peace agreement. That accord lasted less than a year before it was abrogated under Syrian pressure. And the same parliament voted in May 1991 for the "treaty of brotherhood" giving Syria virtual control over Lebanon.

Some figures are notably absent from the parliament: Druze leader Kamal Jumblat (father of the current leader, Walid) was assassinated, presumably by the Syrians, in 1977; two key Christian members, Camille Chamoun and Pierre Gemayel, have died of natural causes; and Raymond Edde, a key Christian opposition figure, has spent the last 14 years in self-imposed exile in Paris following several attempts on his life. The Chamber of Deputies' former Shi'ite speaker, Kamel al-Asa'ad has receded from the political limelight since the collapse of the May 17 agreement, which was signed and approved in "his" house.

The latest controversy came this spring when parliament voted to give the government one-time power to appoint new legislators. Despite some strong opposition within parliament, most members voted in favor. Dr. Albert Moukhaiber, a Christian who voted against, declared: "I am sad. It was a black day for democracy. What adds to my sadness is that members who strongly opposed the appointments ended up voting in favor." He made a similar statement when he voted against the Syrian-Lebanese treaty last month.

Under the Taif agreement's schedule for a peaceful settlement of the country's internal problems, Lebanon will not elect a new parliament before 1992. The current parliament, with its old guard and new appointees, will re-establish the sectarian balance in Lebanon, but will also reflect the political imbalance in favor of Syria. Until elections are held, the question will remain: Can Lebanese democracy really come back to life? ❑

'The Musician,' one of the original four panels created for the Jewish State Theater

CHAGALL REDISCOVERED

Felice Maranz

Long lost murals shed new light on his genius

Sentimental and repetitive, a "Jewish" maker of sugary paintings that are not the stuff of serious art: For years, that has been a common critical view of Marc Chagall. Now, with the help of perestroika and a Swiss philanthropist, the image of the Russian Jewish artist, who died in 1985, is being given new life.

A huge exhibition at the Pierre Gianadda Foundation in Martigny, Switzerland, unveils his early works — some never before seen in the West except in the form of reproductions and inexact copies made by Chagall himself. The paintings are confronting art historians with images they never imagined were in Chagall's works — and drawing record crowds from around the world to off-season Martigny, a town with one main street, 70 kilometers (45 miles) east of Geneva. The opportunity may not last long. The exhibition closes in Martigny in mid-June; a follow-up in Frankfurt has not yet been confirmed.

Among the works on display are murals that had lain rolled and crumpled in a basement at Moscow's Tretyakov Museum since Chagall made them for the walls of the city's Jewish Theater in the early 20s. Soviet art experts were hardly aware of their existence. Mikhail Libman, who spent 45 years on the staff of two Moscow art institutions — 15 at the Pushkin Museum and 30 more, as director, at the Institute of Art History — was shocked when The Jerusalem Report informed him that Chagall's murals were on display.

"I thought they didn't exist anymore," said Libman, 70, who arrived in Israel two months ago. "I've only seen them in old photographs."

The murals' exhibition is another landmark in the opening up of Soviet society, and is causing a reexamination of Chagall's artistic stature in the country of his birth. Until the late 80s, he was considered a decadent traitor who deserted Russia; his works could not be exhibited or reproduced. Possession of Chagall reproductions was cause for suspicion, say Soviet Jews, and could result in KGB interrogations.

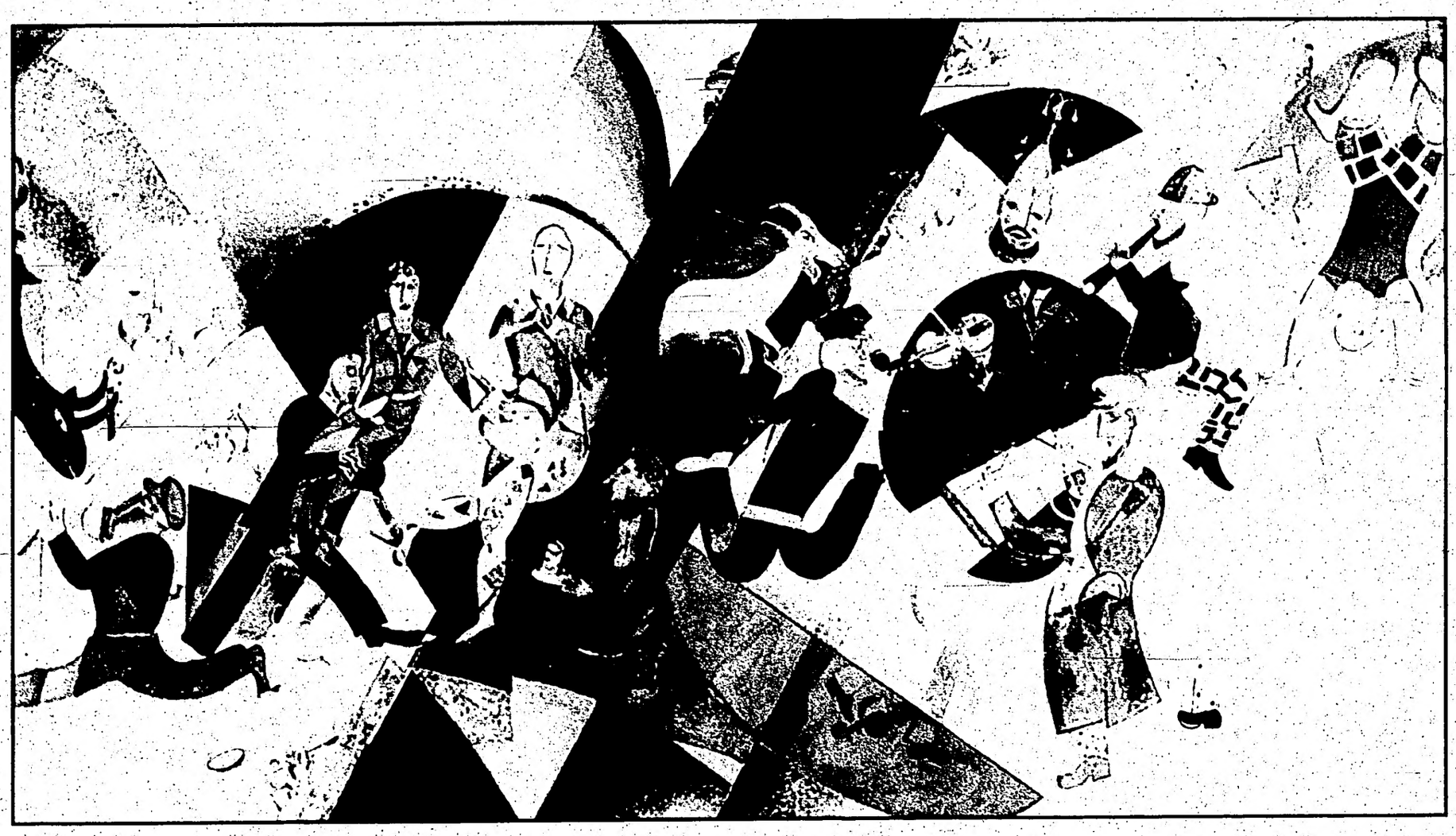
Unlike their Soviet counterparts, art historians in the West occasionally obtained permission to exhibit Chagall works from Soviet collections. They also knew about the murals in the Tretyakov, but were denied access to them despite repeated requests. Pierre Gianadda, who directs and funds the foundation which bears his name, says with a laugh that he still doesn't know why the museum let him take the paintings.

Gianadda concedes that the half-million Swiss francs he spent restoring the murals probably persuaded the Soviet authorities to let them out, albeit temporarily. "We paid a great deal for the restorations," he said. He visited the museum 15 times in the past three years, always asking for the murals, before striking a deal with the Soviets, and scoured private collections in the Soviet Union and eight other Soviet museums for the works in his exhibition.

The fruits of Gianadda's persistence are drawing high praise from the academic world. "Only when I confronted the murals at Martigny did I realize the works' magnitude," said Avram Kampf, a retired Hebrew University art historian and former chief curator of New York's Jewish Museum. "I was shocked. It is *the* major work of Jewish cultural value in the plastic arts in the 20th century."

Kampf was among the more than 150,000 visitors who have already seen the exhibition since it opened in April. He believes the murals are "the best work Chagall ever did" and that they will spark a critical reappraisal of the artist. "We have forgotten how good he really was — and here he was at his best, at a great moment in Russian history and Jewish culture, when Chagall was young and in love."

Chagall was born in 1887 in the small



Detail of theater mural on view for the first time

Chagall, 1918 Beaux Arts series

Byelorussian town of Vitebsk. His father was a herring merchant. As a child, Chagall rebelled against his hasidic background — in his memoirs he recalls sneaking out of the synagogue on Yom Kippur to eat an apple — and began studying art. He moved to St. Petersburg in 1906 and five years later found a patron who sent him to Paris.

He quickly became part of the thriving Parisian art community, where he stayed up all night, painting in the nude. In his work the dark, lovely face of the lover he'd left behind in Russia, Bella Rosenfeld, appeared again and again.

Shortly before World War I began, Chagall received a letter from Rosenfeld, in which she mentioned she was seeing someone else. Chagall shut the door of his Paris studio with a piece of wire and took off for Russia — just in time to get trapped there by the war.

In 1915 he married Bella over the objections of her parents, who owned a jewelry store, that he could never make a living as an artist. That same year the government banned all publications in Yiddish or Hebrew. The 1917 Revolution changed Chagall's fortunes, and the status of Russian Jewish culture, dramatically. The Bolsheviks lifted all bans on Jewish culture, *yiddishkeit* flourished, and Chagall, a favorite of the Revolution, was appointed commissar of art in Vitebsk.

In that capacity he founded and directed a museum and an art academy that eventually attracted such luminaries as El Lissitzky and Kazimir Malevich. Chagall's shining moment as a Communist idealist occurred on the first anniversary of the October Revolution, when he organized a giant celebration in Vitebsk in which the city's houses were draped with canvases blossoming with heroic peasant figures and his trademark flying goats.

Neither the Moscow authorities nor the fanatical, aggressive rival Malevich were pleased by Chagall's fantasic visions. Malevich, whose strict, geometric designs were taking hold of the avant-garde, eventually became commissar, while a disgusted Chagall left Vitebsk for Moscow. There he worked with the Jewish Theater, painting the murals now on display in Switzerland. In 1922, bitter and disillusioned, Chagall left Russia for good and returned to Paris.

He continued to exploit the scenes and symbols he had developed in Vitebsk, but he was never again as piquant a painter as he had been in the Russia of his youth. His later work lacked the sharp brilliance of his older masterpieces, many of which were locked up in Russia. Until the Martigny exhibit.

"Over the City," for example, a portrait of himself and Bella sailing over Vitebsk, could previously be seen only in reproduction. "It's a lovely, romantic painting," said Hebrew University professor and Chagall expert Ziva Amishai-Maisels. But she also notes the little figure crouching to relieve himself in the corner. "Nobody's noticed it before! I stood there with my mouth hanging open when I saw it."

She also points to a section of one of the theater murals, the purple-faced "Musician." The version which has been in New York's Guggenheim collection

for years is actually a copy Chagall made of the painting after leaving Russia. The original has black, geometric "clouds" in the sky — a reference to the black cloud in Chagall's life, Malevich — and another squatting figure is in the corner. Both images are absent from the *parveh* copy in the West. Amishai-Maisels doesn't know why the ribald image is there, but surmises, "It could be the pin-prick in the balloon to stop it from being sentimental."

Other parts of the theater decorations are still missing, said Amishai-Maisels. "We don't have the ceiling or the curtains. Nobody knows where they are, or if they have been destroyed. I don't think even the Russians know."

The Soviets may indeed have things other than searching for lost Chagall paintings on their minds. Despite the new cultural freedom, "Russia is in such bad shape that culture is not on top," said recent immigrant to Israel, Olga Negnevitskaya, a restoration expert from Moscow. "I worked at the Pushkin Museum for 10 years and there were always long lines there. Now, there are no lines. People have to find food first — they're not interested in culture." ❑

BETWEEN THE AX AND THE LAUREL

Stefan Kanfer / New York

Joseph Brodsky: from gulag to U.S. poet laureate

The quintessential American-Jewish journey used be from Poland to polo in two generations. But these days things move faster: Joseph Brodsky has just gone from gulag to poet laureate in 19 years.

Brodsky came to the United States in 1972 after doing hard time in the Arctic Circle. During the late 60s he had been convicted of "social parasitism." His crime: dropping out of school and daring to write verse instead of laboring on an assembly line.

Brodsky's father had been a career naval officer but, recalls Joseph, he was discharged "in accordance with some seraphic ruling that Jews should not hold substantial military rank." The family scraped by, mostly on the earnings of Brodsky's mother, a translator fluent in several languages.

From adolescence onward, the boy-poet was in trouble, sometimes with the authorities, sometimes with women — he fathered a child but never married. He continued to draw attention to himself with poetry, public statements and general perverseness. During his imprisonment, when some important Soviet writers protested on his behalf, he was released from confinement — only to proclaim his nostalgia for the gulag. "In prison," explains Brodsky, "you are among friends. You recognize all the ears that are around you. Even the guards; after a while you know them, and they are in the same boat."

In 1971 Israel issued an invitation and the authorities decided to let Brodsky go; he was attracting too much outside attention. Once again, the response was contrariness: "I'm 100 per cent Jewish by blood," he decided, "but by education I'm nothing." The nothing would prefer to stay put. This impudence was too much for the Soviet Ministry of Culture. Brodsky was hurriedly issued an exit visa and hustled onto a plane.

He landed in Vienna, then sought out W.H. Auden, won an endorsement from the poet, and began his astonishing climb to prominence. With a small body of work — several volumes of poems, a collection of criticism — Brodsky became the classic instance of the exiled bard. One of his early poems showed foresight: "For the innocent head there is nothing in store but the ax and the evergreen laurel."

Brodsky: A spoiled darling of fate?

Courtesy of American Cultural Center

The ax had fallen in the USSR. The laurel was on its way. A few months later he came to the U.S. and persuaded the University of Michigan to appoint him a poet-in-residence. He set out to master the new language, gain his American citizenship and challenge his students ("Attack Thomas Hardy and I will defend him"). Later he moved to New York, where he became a fixture at Greenwich Village coffee shops, talking and chain-smoking into the night. Asked to define himself, he was succinct: "I'm an ultimate novelty and I think that's the most appropriate position for a poet in society."

The MacArthur Foundation thought the novelty was worth more than classroom applause and meager royalties. It awarded him one of its "genius" grants, worth some $208,000. Brodsky was now free of financial constraints, but did not change either his tone ("I don't have principles, I have nerves") or his lifestyle. Wracked with heart trouble, he continued to chain smoke, even after a bypass operation. His poems remained elegaic and bitterly ironic:

I wish you goodnight. May I, too, sleep soundly / Won't you bid a goodnight to my native country / for settling accounts with me — from that distance / where, by the massing of miles, or simple / miracle, you have been changed to only / a postal address . . .

Some fellow exiles were less taken with the Brodsky phenomenon. In her volume of memoirs, "Hope Abandoned," Nadezhda Mandelstam called Brodsky "a spoiled darling of fate;" and Alexandr Solzhenitsyn complained that although Brodsky implied that he was the voice of the Russian people, "There is a deep stratum of the popular language that is missing in his work."

The Swedish Academy disagreed, and in 1987 Brodsky was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. The irrepressible new laureate told the press it was "a big step for me and a small one for mankind."

What would he do with the $340,000 in prize money? "Spend it." Brodsky's new status did not make him less contentious. He resigned from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and

Letters when it made Soviet poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko an honorary member. "He's a weather vane," Brodsky complained. "He throws stones only in directions that are officially sanctioned and approved." As for Solzhenitsyn's comments, Brodsky said they were reminiscent of a Russian proverb: "Everyone else's cow is allowed to moo, but yours should be silent."

Brodsky has now received yet another distinction: He has become the first foreign-born poet laureate of the United States since the title was created in 1985. Happily, the job, which carries a modest stipend, has few formal duties beyond producing one major poetic work. Not for Brodsky the tasks of English laureates who must produce poems for coronations and birthdays. He can carry on versifying and being as disputatious as he was before the honors, the money and the ashtrays piled up.

He continues to puff away and chip away at all monuments — including the one called Joseph Brodsky. "It turned out that I'm a bad Jew," he insists, "a bad Russian, a bad everything."

The facts belie his public posture. The Jew has never stopped protesting injustice, the Russian is still lyrical about his abandoned homeland and the poet continues to hone his art. Not bad for the onetime juvenile delinquent of Leningrad. ❑

Stefan Kanfer is a contributing editor at Time magazine.

Hockey night in Haifa: Not quite ready for the NHL Guthmann

HAI STICKING

Danny Ben-Tal

A Canadian visionary brings hockey to the Holy Land

The forward takes a quick pass on the breakaway, races down the ice and with an explosive slap-shot sends the puck glancing off the goalie's leg-pad into the net. The small crowd cheers its local hero, Israel's leading hockey prospect, 18-year old Gal Asa.

Against the odds and the thermometer, ice hockey is taking root in Israel. Last month, local hockey czar Paul Shindman went to Finland to enroll the Israel Hockey League as the 40th member of the International Ice Hockey Association (IIHA).

"It raised a few eyebrows," says the Canadian-born Shindman. "Until recently, the idea of ice rinks in Israel was treated as a mere curiosity." Although it will take at least another decade before Israel's national team could even think about qualifying for the Winter Olympics, it is now gearing up to play in the 1992 World Championships in Athens. The sport will make its Maccabiah Games debut in 1993 in a four-nation (Israel, Soviet Union, Canada, United States) tournament.

Ice hockey has been played here since the country's first rink was built in January 1987 in the Haifa suburb of Kiryat Motzkin. The rink was an instant success, attracting some 200,000 visitors in its first year. Five more rinks have opened since then — including one in Metullah, on the Lebanese border, built by Canada's United Israel Appeal — and a sixth is under construction in Ashdod.

Introducing ice hockey to Israelis has become a personal crusade for Toronto-born Shindman, an engineer who played and coached amateur hockey before moving to Jerusalem four years ago. "I had heard that one rink the size of my living room had been built in Israel, so I packed my skates determined to get hockey started there."

He began by organizing and coaching the national team, which got off to a rocky start two years ago with a 20-2 loss against a team of Canadian U.N. soldiers. (In a rematch last year, the Israelis lost by only one point.) Today there are four teams, each with up to 17 players, now finishing up the league's second season.

"The style of play varies with each team," says Shindman. "Some prefer the North American style of dumping the puck in the crease, and others the more European wide-open free-skating style." One NHL feature is almost completely missing; crowd-pleasing slugfests on the ice. "We had only one real fight last year," Shindman reports, "and we kicked the instigator out of the league."

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Not surprisingly, immigrants from colder climes form the backbone of the league; half are originally from North America and most of the others come from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. According to Ukrainian-born David Pupko, captain of the league-leading Haifa team, "News of the rinks has filtered back to prospective immigrants still in the Soviet Union. They pack their skates when they come."

Although there are still only a handful of native Israeli players, Shindman points with pride to the first generation of local talent. Bat Yam leads the league in sabras. Says 17-year-old Alon Giyardi, "Now that we can watch NHL games on cable TV, hockey has become my obsession." But, complains teammate Eyal Ben-Ya'akov, "Israelis still don't know a thing about the game. I was once asked on the bus why my snooker cue was bent at the end!"

Indeed, Israeli ice hockey still faces some formidable obstacles. Like most minor sports, it receives minimal funding from the state-sponsored soccer betting pool, which channels huge amounts into soccer and basketball. Equipment remains scarce and conditions are cramped on under-sized rinks (only the expanded Metullah rink will be regulation hockey size). Practice time on the ice is an even rarer commodity. "Rink operators think in terms of cost-effectiveness, and setting aside time for hockey players brings in less money than 100 schoolchildren," complains Shindman. "They have yet to grasp the sport's marketing potential."

And then there are some peculiarly local problems. The Kiryat Motzkin rink was due to be relocated to a nearby shopping mall last January, but the mall suffered a direct Scud missile hit during the Gulf War, depriving Haifa-area players of a playing surface for three months. As Shindman says, with the stoicism of a seasoned hockey player: "Taking knocks is part of the game." ❑

Volcanic Hebrew

Hillel Halkin

"*Kvish damim*" says a new billboard that has been posted along the country's worst roads as part of the Transportation Ministry's latest campaign against traffic accidents. "Road of Blood" would be the closest you could come to a literal translation of that, although "Dangerous Highway," I suppose, would be more like what an equivalent sign might say in English.

The new billboard is pointedly accompanied in some places by a skeleton of a wrecked car on the shoulder of the road, but for my own part, such graphics are unnecessary. The phrase *kvish damim* itself sends more of a shiver down my spine than any wreck. The very sound of it is like an ancient malediction.

One reacts this way not only because blood is a primitive substance, but because the phrase *kvish damim* is linguistically archaic, vestigial. If you want to say "blood" in Hebrew, the word is *dam*. The plural form, *damim*, "bloods," is on the whole restricted to the Bible, and is generally used there in the sense of blood spilled murderously, blood for which the shedder is culpable. "The voice of thy brother's blood(s) (*kol demei ahikha*) crieth unto me from the ground," says God to Cain after the death of Abel. "If a thief is found breaking in (to a house) and be struck and dies, he has no blood(s) (*ein lo damim*)," says the Book of Exodus, meaning that such an act is not considered murder. Why the plural? The Targum Onkelos, the Aramaic translation of the Bible that is studied every Sabbath by many Jews, gives a striking exegetical explanation when it renders God's words to Cain as *kal dam zarayan de'atidin lemipak min ahukh kavlin kadamai*, "the voice of the blood of the offspring that your brother would have had cries out to me." All murder is mass murder.

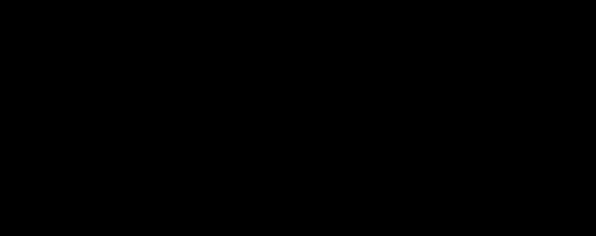
Kvish damim: a road of murderously spilled blood, a road on which the driver is called upon — and by a higher law than the Ministry of Transportation's — not to be a murderer. Maybe there are other languages besides Hebrew in which you can say all that in two words, but I can't for the moment think what they might be.

Not that there is any reason to believe that an effective phrase, no matter what shock waves it sends through you, will succeed where so many anti-road-accident campaigns have failed in the past. But the fact of the matter is that *kvish damim* is not the opportunistic brainstorm of a public advertiser. Although I have no idea if it was originally a media invention or a spontaneous folk-creation like those by which all languages tend to develop, it has had currency in Israel for at least the last 10 years and represents the kind of surfacing of an ancient level of Hebrew into contemporary speech that is one of the unusual features of the Israeli language. Imagine if Americans started talking about murder using old Anglo-Saxon words like "wergild."

Nor is this to say that Hebrew in Israel is in itself a culturally conservative, much less an atavistic, force. On the contrary, to anyone with a good knowledge of classical Hebrew and its sources, the overwhelming impression made by Israeli Hebrew is one of cleavage with the past, of a language so lexically and syntactically riddled with neologisms, Yiddishisms, Arabisms, Americanisms and sundry other foreignisms, to say nothing of just plain 20th-centuryisms, that at times, in its colloquial manifestations, it seems more like a kind of pidgin than an ancient Semitic tongue. It is, one might say, the language of immigrants who had no native speakers to learn from and so taught it to each other.

But — to expand on a geological metaphor that the Israeli writer Amos Oz once used in describing the various strata of Hebrew, from the language's earliest, Biblical period until the present — if contemporary Israeli speech can be compared to a layer of sediment that has in many places covered and obscured earlier formations of the language, modern Hebrew continues to exist in a "hot" or "volcanic" state. Periodically, an eruption from below, from a distant past that our everyday speech seems no longer in contact with, catapults into it some word, phrase, or usage, still red-hot with the intensity of former ages, that quickly cools into contemporaneity. Back in the days after the Yom Kippur War, for example, the word *gezerah* suddenly began to be used for the severe economic measures undertaken by the government. Now in classical rabbinic usage, a *gezerah* usually means one of two things: either a decision by God to punish a human being by death or some other extreme sanction, or the harsh decree of a king against a people, especially of a non-Jewish king against the Jews. For a while, before it hardened into a routine reference to any government-imposed belt-tightening, *gezerah* powerfully conveyed the burning sense of grievance of an Israeli public that felt taxed to the limit.

It will happen to *kvish damim* too. Already the phrase is on its way to becoming an accepted part of the colloquial idiom no less than *shvitzer* (Yiddish) for "braggart," *ala kefak* (Arabic) for "terrific," and *fair* for, well, "fair," and the billboards will only hasten the process. Meanwhile, drive carefully. ❑



MY GAME WITH GARY

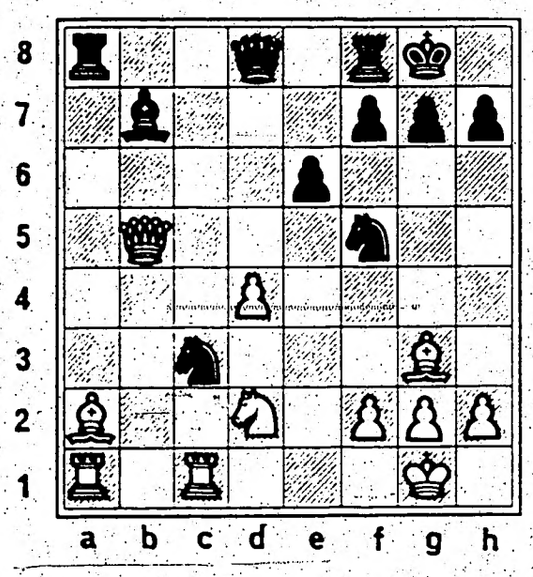
Lev Psakhis

Guest chess columnist Lev Psakhis is a former champion of the Soviet Union, who immigrated to Israel in the spring of 1990. Later that year, he was "sparring partner" for world champion Gary Kasparov, training for a title defense against Anatoly Karpov.

Soon it will be 10 years since this game was played. My opponent was only 18. I was 22. Now as I write, he has been champion of the world for five years. Unfortunately for me, the victory was the high point of my career; after a grueling duel, Gary Kasparov and I were co-champions of the Soviet Union.

Psakhis L. 2535 Kasparov G. 2630
USSR Championship
1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Nf3 0-0 6Bd3 d5 7.0-0 dc4 8.Bxc4 Nbd7 9.Qe2 a6 10.a3 Ba5 11.Ba2?! (After making this doubtful move I proposed a draw. The future world champ smiled condescendingly and murmured: "It is inappropriate for the first game." This was our first serious game. I'm grateful Kasparov rejected my pacifism.) **11...cd4 12.ed4 Bxc3! 13.bc3 b5 14.a4 Bb7 15.Bd2! Ne4 16.Rfc1 Nd6?!** (A more mature Kasparov would exchange on d2, gaining a minimal initiative for black which he would nurse for another 100 moves to turn this small advantage into victory. Such maturity came after after his long experience with that expert of slow strangulation, Anatoly Karpov. **17.Bf4 Nf6 18.Nd2! Nf5** (Gary subtly moved his pieces to kingside, so it was time to open a second front on queenside.) **19.ab Nd5! 20.Bg3 ab5 21.Qxb5** (It's clear that black has some compensation for the pawn: the bishop on a2 is still pointless, the pawns in the center are hanging loose, while the black pieces are all active. At worst, I thought, I'll exchange on d5 with a draw. Kasparov read my thoughts.) **21...Nxc3!? (diagram) 22.Rxc3 Nxd4** (Black sacrifices the piece — at 18, who counts pieces? — and removes the pawn barricade, increasing the mobility of his pieces. Time is short; we each have less than 10 minutes for the next 18 moves. **23.Qd3! Ra4?! 24.Nc4! Qd5 25.f3 Rfa8 26.Rd1! Rd8!** (It looks dangerous.The bishop on a2 is threatened. Also threatened is 27...Nxf3+ with a future 28...Qc5+ and then my queen is lost. But ...) **27.Bb1!** (The bishop's revenge. Now the threat is 28.Qxh7.) **27...Nxf3 28.gf3 Qc5+ 29.Ne3!** (The point.) **29...Qxe3+!** (Isn't the young man inventive!) **30.Qxe3 Rxd1 31.Kg2 Rxb1 32Rb3!** (Breaks the tension.) **32...Rb4 33.Rxb4 Rxb4 34.Qd2 Bxf3+ 35.Kxf3** (The last ten moves are only of historical interest.) **35...Rb3+ 36.Kg2 h6 37.Qc2 Rb5 38.Kf3 Rf5+ 39.Kg2 h5 40.h4 g5 41.hg5 Rxg5 42.Kh3 Rf5 43.Qc8+ Kh7 44.Qd7 Kg6**

The solution to last week's problem: Ba5!



GEOGRAPHY CLASS

Hanan Sher

	North ♠AQ1096 ♥KQ107 ♦8643 ♣none	
West ♠K54 ♥AJ652 ♦J5 ♣A72		**East** ♠J32 ♥84 ♦97 ♣KQ10853
	South ♠87 ♥93 ♦AKQ102 ♣J974	

Where is Israel? The map tells you that it's in Asia. Some of its neighbors are still not used to the idea that it's in the Middle East; perhaps some day they will. Others say it might as well be on the western shore of the Atlantic, since it's virtually America's 51st state.

Things get more confusing in sports. International soccer's ruling body has been placing Israel in Oceania, down under with Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. (While they're at it, why not put us near Tahiti, so we can indulge in Capt. Cook fantasies?) In other sports, most notably basketball, Israel is a part of Europe.

And, as you might expect, in bridge. This spring the Israeli women's team added a feather to the national cap. Israel is not a member of the European Community, but Migry Albo Tzur and Ruth Levit Porat, together with Hanita Melech-Nurit Naveh and Varda Abramov-Daniella Birman, won the prestigious EC women's championship. (Feathers have been flying lately. During the winter, Israel's Motti Gelbard-Yossi Engel, and juniors Guy Gecht-Zohar Tor, finished first and second in London's Guardian Pairs.)

Today's deal shows the aggressive play that brought the EC title to Israel, with anchor pair Tzur-Porat starring against Germany. The German pair in the closed room got all the way to four diamonds, after West opened the bidding. The Israeli women did better.

In the open room, West opened one heart and Porat, North, overcalled one spade. After two clubs from East, Tzur bid two diamonds — and then things started to roll. Porat jumped to four clubs, a cue bid showing diamond fit, Tzur asked for more information with four hearts, and Porat's 4 no-trump showed a club void and one ace. Tzur closed proceedings at six diamonds.

The contract was difficult to get to, but not too hard to make. Tzur ruffed the ace of clubs lead, and entered hand with the trump ace. She finessed the spade queen, cashed the ace, and ruffed a spade.

The spades were 3-3, so things looked good. Tzur led a heart, winning the king when West ducked. South returned to hand with a diamond, and found that suit 2-2. West got her ace of hearts, and that was all she wrote.

We do not have a record of the defense. But if West played her spades up the line, she did not make it tough enough for South. If the king of spades had fallen under the the ace at Trick Four, Tzur might have played the hand as she did, or she might have taken another line. After the ace of spades, she could play a diamond to hand; when the suit breaks 2-2, a heart to dummy is followed by the spade ten, for what South expects to be a ruffing finesse against East. When the jack appears, the hand is over — but wouldn't king under ace be a lovely play, from a holding of K-J-4? ❑

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PEOPLE

Courtesy Alliance Francaise

FANNY'S FARE — The Gulf War put an untimely halt to the first round of filming, but French actress **Fanny Ardant** is now in Israel to pick up where shooting left off. Ardant, companion of the late **François Truffaut,** with whom she had a child, stars opposite **Sharon Alexander** in **Michal Bat-Adam**'s tentatively titled "The Almond Tree in Bloom." The film tells the tale of a love affair between Ardant and a war hero working through the trauma of battle.

TO TELL THE TRUTH — He's Egyptian born, carries an American passport and introduces himself as a confidant of Saudi royalty. But only at the close of a brief visit to Israel in late May, did **Hassan Khattab** — self-proclaimed adviser to Prince Turki bin Abd al-Aziz, brother of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia — reveal his true identity: a travel agent from Miami. Foreign Ministry officials, with whom he was granted a five-minute meeting, had already dismissed Khattab's mysterious claim of royal connections as "hot air."

IPPA

Hadashot

FAMILY AFFAIR — The Cheney family's Israel itinerary followed the division of labor back home: arms for **Dick** and arts for **Lynn.** While her husband met with his Israeli defense counterpart **Moshe Arens,** Lynn, second-term president of the U.S. National Endownment for the Humanities, visited cultural centers, including the Beth Hatefusoth Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv. Accompanying the former journalist and author were daughters **Elizabeth** and **Mary** (above), together with **Muriel Arens** and daughter **Aliza.**

Hadashot

OFF THE BALL — **Yoram Globus** has succeeded where fellow media baron **Robert Maxwell** failed, in his bid to acquire the Betar Jerusalem soccer team. Globus (above), the Israeli-born chief of the MGM/UA movie studio and fallen-out partner of film mogul **Menachem Golan,** is set to buy Betar for 300,000 shekels ($140,000). Financially strapped Betar last year turned down Maxwell's much larger offer to purchase the team — and its massive debts — on condition it merge with the rival Hapoel Jerusalem. Betar, now in second-to-last place in the national league, is a shoo-in for relegation to second division.

Compiled by Sharon Ashley

Magnes

NOBODY'S FOOL — With 750 potential voters arriving at Ben-Gurion Airport daily, Labor Party leader **Shimon Peres** was determined to speak their language. And, says **Sofa Landwehr,** 40, a Labor activist from Ashdod and Peres's twice-weekly Russian teacher, after a few short months he now can. "You can't fool him anymore," says Landwehr, a speech therapist who immigrated from Leningrad in 1979. Landwehr's association with her pupil dates back to when Peres, then prime minister, helped secure the release of her sister and mother from the Soviet Union. Now for Amharic lessons . . .

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HOW EXACTLY DO YOU GET SICK? WELL, WE HAVE PARA PROFESSIONALS AND LAY LEADERS... HERE IS HOW IT WORKS... FIRST FILL OUT A CARD..
IN THIS FIGHT, BEING SICK IS NOT ENOUGH!
YOU'VE GOT TO SICKEN YOUR FRIENDS AND BUSINESS ACQUAINTANCES TOO!
SAY BILL, YOU'RE JEWISH... HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF GETTING SICK FOR ISRAEL?
PARLOUR MEETINGS
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CLAP
CLAP
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DINNERS AND THEN FLIGHTS TO ISRAELI HOSPITALS
WE'RE PROUD THAT SO MANY OF YOU CAME HERE TO GET SICK.. CAN WE START THE PLEDGES?
I'LL HAVE THE SPOILED MAYO!
PUT ME DOWN FOR UNDERCOOKED EGGS!
ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL
CLAP CLAP CLAP
HURRAY!!
TREATMENT BY A RUSSIAN M.D.
SAY "DA"
ONGOING PROGRAMS
BEEN SICK FOR ISRAEL ONCE?... GET SICK AGAIN WITH
PROJECT RENEW ILL
NOW THAT I'M RETIRED, ETHEL AND I TRY TO BE SICK TWO OR THREE TIMES A YEAR!
DOOBIE the DOG
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Keep them in the tribe

Alexander M. Schindler

At the present rate, Israel will absorb 1 million Soviet immigrants within a few years. An estimated 30 percent of these immigrants, including the children of intermarried couples in which the woman is not Jewish, are not considered Jews according to halakhah. These children, numbering in the tens of thousands, will share the fate of the Jewish people — speaking Hebrew, attending Israeli schools, celebrating Jewish festivals, serving in the army. But unless they yield to the stringent requirements of Orthodox conversion, the rabbinic courts will bar them from marrying Jews within Israel's borders. Given the sheer numbers of Soviet immigrants in this predicament and their estrangement from ritual observance, the conversion option is as unfair as it is impractical.

The Israeli government must find a realistic solution, and fast. Otherwise a large minority will be consigned needlessly to the margins of society, becoming a caste of untouchables. Fortunately, the Reform rabbinate, in struggling with the dilemmas of intermarriage in America, has passed a historic resolution on Jewish identity that is as relevant in Israel as it is in the Diaspora.

The "patrilineal descent" resolution states: "The child of either Jewish parent is under the presumption of Jewish descent. This presumption of the Jewish status of the offspring of any mixed marriage is to be established through appropriate and timely public and formal acts of identification with the Jewish faith and people. The performance of these *mitzvot* serves to commit those who participate in them, both parent and child, to Jewish life . . ."

The Reform decision on patrilineal descent eliminates the distinction between men and women, between fathers and mothers. It holds that, insofar as genealogy is a factor in determining Jewishness, the maternal and the paternal lines should be given equal weight. By adopting a similar resolution, the Knesset could guarantee that all children of intermarried immigrants admitted to the country under the Law of Return would be presumed to be Jews, regardless of whether the Jewish parent was the mother or the father, *so long as the children were raised as Jews.*

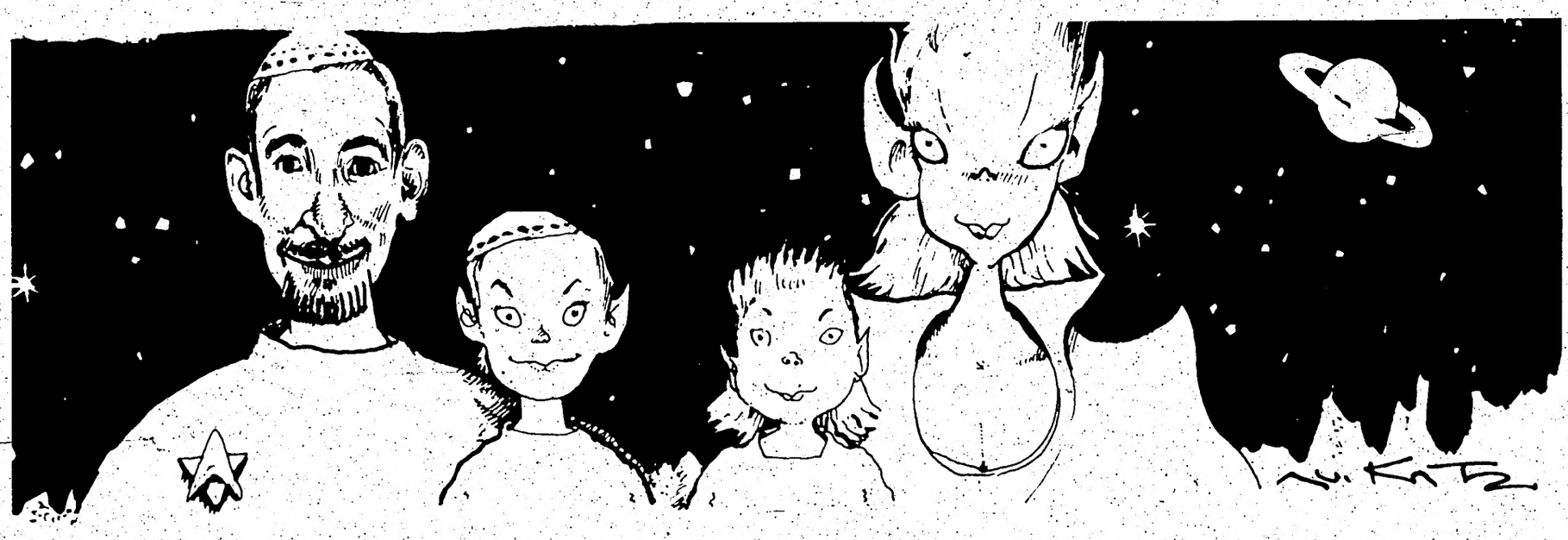
When first proposed, patrilineal descent was condemned in certain Jewish quarters as a radical departure from Jewish law and tradition. Today, according to a recent survey by prominent Jewish sociologist Stephen Cohen, about 80 percent of the American Jewish laity, including some Orthodox, accept the principle. They recognize that Jewish survival depends on adaption to changing circumstances, no less today than in times past, and that this broadened definition of who is a Jew does not in fact represent a break with tradition.

True, for the past 2,000 years or so, Jewish identity has been determined by the maternal line alone. But in the early days of our history, children were considered Jewish primarily because their fathers were Jewish, even if their mothers were not. In the Torah, genealogical tables are overwhelmingly patrilineal; it was the male line that determined descent and status. In matters of inheritance, the patrilineal line alone was followed. Perhaps more to the point, the Jewishness of the children of non-Jewish mothers is never questioned. Moses, for example, married Zipporah, the daughter of a Midianite priest; yet her children were considered Jews, following the line of the father. And Joseph married Asenath, daughter of a priest of On; her children too were regarded as Jews. To this day male Jewish children receive the blessing that they be like Ephraim and Menasseh, the sons of Joseph and a non-Jewish mother!

Significantly, both the Torah and rabbinic law hold the male line absolutely dominant in matters affecting the priesthood. Whether one is a cohen or a levi depends on the father's priestly claim, not the mother's. If the father is good enough to bequeath the priestly status, why isn't he good enough to bequeath Jewishness? Reform has concluded that he is; hence its old-new definition of who is a Jew.

The time has come for Israel's rabbinate to admit that Judaism allows for more than one interpretation of law and custom. The most authentic interpretation, I believe, reflects not only the wisdom of Torah but its heart, which is precisely why we must embrace all the children of the Soviet immigrants, matrilineal and patrilineal Jews alike. ❑

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler is president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.



The investment fantasy

Arie Caspi

When Israeli cabinet ministers want relief from the nightmares U.S. Secretary of State James Baker causes them, they dream of foreign investments.

When they wake up, they discover that foreign investors stay away from Israel in droves. Over the last decade, foreign investment in this country has ranged betwen $60 million and $200 million a year. That amounts, on average, to less than half a percent of the annual inflow of foreign currency.

Israel offers manifold inducements to investors from abroad. The investor need put up only a third of a project's actual cost, and the government will provide the rest — not to mention exempting him from income tax and contributing to his payroll costs. The investors still don't come.

In today's world, foreign investors are a sought-after species. Israel has to compete for their attentions with Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia, and with the developed West. The problem is that Israel has nothing to offer.

True, labor costs here are half those in the United States. But they're five times as high as those in Eastern Europe, 10 times higher than in the Four Tigers of East Asia. The profits a Western investor can expect here, weighed against the risks of war and political change he faces, are insultingly low.

Now if Israel were to reach a reasonable peace pact with the Arab countries, it would become tremendously attractive to investors the world around. A rare combination would be created — the sophisticated workforce of this country and job-hungry millions of the surrounding Arab states.

Of the few foreigners who are interested in investing here today, some can hardly be seen as welcome additions to our economy. Potential investors touted by government officials in the past two years have included the Drexel Burnham Lambert investment securites firm, now bankrupt, and Donald Trump, who is teetering. Those are just two examples.

Often, though, investors just aren't interested. Recently the government put Israel Discount Bank — the country's third largest bank, and one of top 500 in the world — on the block. It couldn't find a single serious investor interested in buying it, except for the previous owners, who had pushed the bank to the brink of collapse in 1983.

To cover a balance-of-payments deficit that runs $3 billion a year and acquire additional foreign currency, Israel shnorrs world-wide. The biggest hunk of cash comes from the U.S. Treasury. American economic and military aid, provided as a grant, comes to $3 billion annually. This year, as a result of the Gulf War, it will jump to $4 billion. On top of that, the U.S. government provides a tax exemption for the hundreds of millions of dollars raised annually for Israel by the United Jewish Appeal.

This country receives more foreign aid than any other country in the world. According to a World Bank report, economic aid in 1988 came to $282 per Israeli. That doesn't include military aid. The same year, Nigeria received aid of $1 per capita. In Israel, the per-capita GNP is $8,700; in Nigeria, it's $290.

In short, Israel solves its economic problems by political means. That allows it to adopt policies that are neither politically nor economically rational. The best example is the country's investment in infrastructure.

Over the past decade, billions have been invested in building settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — and in the roads leading to them. At the same time, most of the roads in the "old" Israel are in ruins. Inside the pre-67 borders, there are about 4,000 kilometers (2,500 miles) of interurban roads. To keep them in reasonable condition, 10 percent need to be reconditioned each year. Instead, the government allocates enough money to recondition only 100 kilometers of roads per year. Standards of upkeep resemble those of a country in Africa. New roads are hardly built. The "new" Ayalon Highway entering Tel Aviv from the south has been under construction for nearly 20 years. It's close to completion — and already obsolete.

Israel has only 150 kilometers (90 miles) of passenger railroads. There are no subways. The tracks to Jerusalem were laid at the end of the last century. It takes three times longer to get from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem by train than by car. A few dozen passengers take the trip on an average day, and they regard it as a Disneyland ride.

Living on money they've shnorred, the officials responsible for the economy can conduct policy without looking at costs or financially accounting for their decisions. Israel raises money in bundles of hundreds of million, even billions, of dollars. The money comes free of the strings the business world attaches to investments: No need for realistic predictions of profit and loss, no need to report results.

So despite supposedly passionate efforts to attract foreign investors, the country's leaders find the current situation quite comfortable. If foreign investment reached the levels politicians dream of, they'd have to account for the economic consequences of every decision. In business you have to act rationally, and nobody in today's Israel—wants to be rational. ❑

Arie Caspi is an economic commentator for Ha'aretz and a contributing editor of The Jerusalem Report.

Go for it, Mr. Bush

Hirsh Goodman

The word is that President George Bush is seriously considering calling a meeting of Middle East leaders as a way out of the current imbroglio.

One suggestion is that it take place in Washington. Another, that the invitation be issued jointly with the Soviet Union and that the meeting take place in a neutral country — probably Switzerland.

All I can say, Mr. President, is do it and do it urgently.

The last word

Secretary of State James Baker's efforts have run into a brick wall. Each passing day sees the gains of the Gulf War eroded and the sides more obdurate. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is planning an early election, probably around December. Israel will be in political limbo until the final vote count is in. By then another year will be lost. The initial ray of hope from Syria's President Hafiz al-Asad is all but extinguished, and the platitudes mouthed by the Saudis in the heady days of victory have taken on a different tone.

Meanwhile, the territories are at the boiling point. Economic hardships are enormous, and power is quickly shifting from those who could deliver politically into the hands of 16-year-olds who have not been to school for three years, who are unemployed and unemployable.

And in Israel, Palestinian cheers for incoming Iraqi missiles, random stabbings of civilians and the vicious internecine murders among residents of the territories have, to some extent, exorcised the guilt of occupation and led to a hardening of political attitudes.

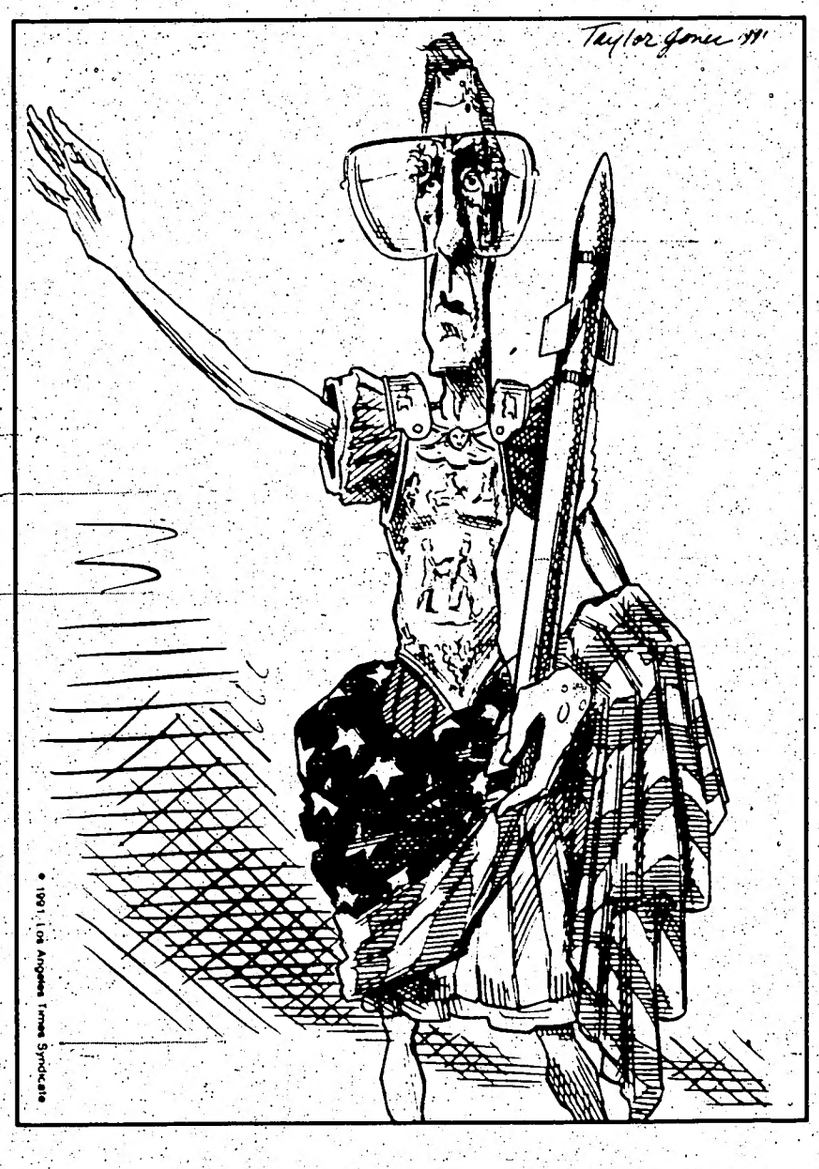
In short, the window of opportunity created by the Gulf War is closing fast. The idea of summoning the leaders, whether to Washington or Geneva, is an excellent one. Neither Shamir nor Asad could refuse. That King Hussein of Jordan would come along is one of the few predictions about the Middle East that I am prepared to make. The Egyptians are a guaranteed "yes." Agreement has been reached on the question of Palestinian representation — one of Baker's few successes.

The world wants a new order in the Middle East. It has finally learned that arms and oil don't mix. For the first time, there is a confluence of American, Soviet and European policy. Japan is a powerful, albeit tacit, supporter of that policy. Those who would wish to pose obstacles — Libya, Iran and Iraq — have neither the resources nor ability to do so. The PLO is at a nadir. The issue of participation by Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states can easily be settled: Not being principals, they need not attend. But they should be ready to open their purse strings.

All the pieces are in place; it can be done. Good can actually come of it — not to to mention the awesome sight of Shamir, Hosni Mubarak, Asad, King Hussein and Faisal al-Hussaini sitting around the same table.

There are already points of consensus that could be fleshed out at such a meeting. All sides, for example, understand the need for immediate economic development in the territories. Each side has its own reasons for wanting this, beyond knowing that until the Palestinian problem is solved the Middle East will remain a time bomb. For Shamir, such a development would relieve some of the pressure of having to provide work for both Palestinians and hundreds of thousands of incoming immigrants in a country with over 10 per cent unemployment. For the Palestinians, there is not only a need for local industry to absorb the growing army of the jobless but also the political understanding that within growing economic independence lie the seeds of national independence.

A second point of agreement is on the need for arms limitations. If approached judiciously, in a way that would allay Israel's security concerns, these talks could be to Middle East peace what SALT was to glasnost. All parties agree to curbs on chemical and biological weapons. Israel wants serious international controls on ground-to-ground missile development and limitations on further weapons proliferation in the region. None of the participants, except for Israel, has nuclear capability, so the issue is, for all intents and purposes, a moot one.



So that is all this initial meeting has to achieve: a decision to set up two committees. One will deal with regional disarmament; the other, development in the territories. The talks will have to be direct and the world prepared to dip into its pockets. Jordan will have to play a constructive role and allow produce from the territories over its borders to the Arab world. Egypt will have to remove its current restrictions and do the same for Gaza. This achieved, a new atmosphere will be created in which success in the next stage of talks — aimed at peace between Israel and its neighbors and a solution to the Israel-Palestinian conundrum — will become slightly less impossible. ❑

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